

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

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein greets members of Central Panel of Judges, performers and supervisors of State and Division teams

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Oct — Member of the Panel of Patrons of the Leading Committee for Organizing the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the ceremony to welcome members of the panel of judges, contestants and supervisors of States and Divisions at the hall of University of Veterinary Science, here, this afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Panel of Patrons of the Leading Committee, Chairman of the Leading Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin and members, the ministers, Chairman of the Work Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein greets performers and supervisors of State and Division teams.

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Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents medicines to maestros over 65 years old.

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members, chairmen, secretaries and members of subcommittees, the Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office, departmental heads, rectors of University of Veterinary Science, University of Agriculture and University of Forestry in Yezin, and members of the Central Panel of Judges of the Competitions.

First, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein greeted chairmen and members of the Leading Committee, the Work Committee and subcommittees, members of the Central Panel of Judges, performers and supervisors of State and Division teams.

Next, the Secretary-1 presented medicines to maestros over 65 years old who will attend the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 15 October, 2006

Preserving Myanmar performing arts

To a nation or a race, uplift of national prestige and integrity is of paramount importance. Lack of preserving own traditional culture could lead to tarnishing national prestige and integrity, resulting in the disappearance of the nation and the people.

With own culture, own literature and own national prestige and integrity, Myanmar has been standing tall among the world nations since time immemorial.

Therefore, the government is preserving national culture in order to promote dignity of the State and the people. As Myanmar culture is enveloped with moral ethics such as shame and fear to commit misdeeds and four cardinal virtues, the fine arts is capable of inculcating the people with spiritual development.

The holding of Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions yearly is one of pivotal tasks in preserving Myanmar culture and traditions. The 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions is being held in Nay Pyi Taw beginning 15 October (today).

The contestants will take part in such events as Myanmar theatrical drama, music, dancing, composing etc. As in the previous years, more dexterous and talented artistes from different fine arts will emerge.

The artistes from various fine arts are to actively and enthusiastically take part in the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions to the best of their ability. Only then, will they be able to continue preserving and uplifting national culture and performing arts.

သက်ရှည်ကျန်းမာဖို့ လမ်းလျှောက်ကြစို့

ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားမှု နည်းပါးခြင်းကြောင့် အလွန်ရောဂါ၊ နှလုံးရောဂါ၊ သွေးတိုးရောဂါ၊ ဆီးချိုရောဂါနှင့် အရိုးအဆစ်များ နာကျင်ရောင်ရမ်းခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်ပွားတတ်ပါသည်။

လမ်းလျှောက်ခြင်းသည်

- ၁။ သွေးတိုး ကျစေသည်။
 - ၂။ စိတ်ပျော်ရွှင်ကျန်းမာစေသည်။
 - ၃။ အရိုးများ ကြံ့ခိုင်သန်စွမ်းစေသည်။
 - ၄။ အဝ မလွန်အောင် ထိန်းသိမ်းနိုင်သည်။
 - ၅။ ကြွက်သားများ သန်စွမ်းဖျတ်လတ်သည်။
 - ၆။ သွေးတွင်းမှ အဆီကျစေသည်။
 - ၇။ သွေးတွင်းမှ သကြားဓာတ်ကျစေသည်။
 - ၈။ အသက်အရွယ်မရွေး လူတန်းစားမရွေး ဆောင်ရွက်နိုင်သည်။
- ရောဂါဘယကင်းစင်၍ သက်ရှည်ကျန်းမာကြစေရန် မိသားစု တစ်စုလုံး နေ့စဉ်နာရီဝက်ခန့်ပုံမှန်လမ်းလျှောက်ကြပါရန် နှိုးဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

Peoples' 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

BSI, PD hold coordination meeting



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo speaks at work coordination meeting of Bureau of Special Investigation and Prisons Department for 2006. — MNA

YANGON, 14 Oct — A work coordination meeting of the Bureau of Special Investigation and the Prisons Department for 2006 was held at Hsinphyushin Hall of BSI, here, this morning.

Present were Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe, directors-general of BSI and PD and officials.

In his address, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo said personnel of the two departments should understand State policy and plan and are to have five out-

looks. Efforts are being made for realization of the objectives of the State and for development and restoration of peace and tranquillity with three strengths, he said.

He spoke of the need for all service personnel to be united and to accept the same concept. Service personnel are implementers of political, economic, social and administrative tasks.

He urged them to discharge their duties in accord with laws and procedures.

MNA

Repaving Yangon-Bago six-lane highway inspected

YANGON, 14 Oct — Yangon City Development Committee is carrying out construction and repaving roads. In addition, the water supply task is also one of the functions of YCDC.

This morning, YCDC Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin inspected repaving of Yangon-Bago six-lane highway in Mingaladon Township and water supply facilities of Yangon City Water Supply Project (Ngamoeyeik).

Officials reported on repaving of the road and supply of more 45 million gallons of water daily to the city. After hearing the reports, the mayor gave necessary instructions to officials.

MNA

Workshop on Responsible Care for Chemical Industry in Myanmar held

YANGON, 14 Oct — A talk on Responsible Care for Chemical Industry in Myanmar organized by Chemical Industry Group under the sponsorship of JETRO took place at Traders Hotel on 12 October with addresses by Chairman Dr Kyaw Htin of CIG and Mr Tomohiro Ando of JETRO (Myanmar).

Afterwards, Senior Researcher Mr Konoshin Fukuma of Japan Chemi-

cal Industry Association (JCIA) gave talks on Responsible Care for Chemical Industry in Myanmar.

Later, a workshop followed and those present took part in the group discussions. The workshop came to an end with the concluding remarks by Secretary U Paw Hein of CIG. It was attended by members of CIG and guests. — MNA



Senior Researcher Mr Konoshin Fukuma of JCIA gives talks on Responsible Care for Chemical Industry in Myanmar. — H

Female entrepreneur tops China's rich list

SHANGHAI, 13 Oct— A female entrepreneur has topped a list of China's richest people, the first time a woman has headed the list in the country.

Zhang Yin, 49-year-old founder and chairwoman of Guangdong-based Nine Dragons Paper Industries Co, Ltd, has amassed a fortune of 27 billion yuan (3.375 billion US dollars).

"She is the wealthiest self-made woman in the world," said Rupert Hoogewerf who set up the list known as the Huran Report in 1999. According to Hoogewerf, Zhang is richer than the US television

host Oprah Winfrey and author of the Harry Potter series JK Rowling.

Zhang Yin was born to a military family in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province as the eldest sister of seven. She went to Hong Kong in 1985 and started her career in waste paper trading with 30,000 yuan.

Zhang defied financial hardship, cheating business partners and intimidation from local mafia to build up

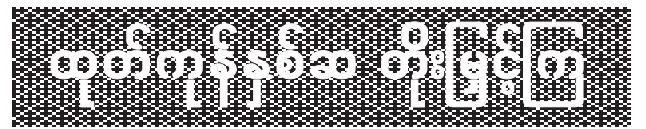
her wealth in the subsequent five years before moving to the United States with her husband in February 1990 to pursue her dream of becoming an "empress of waste paper".

In 1996 she set up the Nine Dragons Paper Industries Co, Ltd in Dongguan of Guangdong. Her product is now used by multinational companies, such as Coca Cola,

Nike, Sony, Haier and TCL. Zhang deems luck as the most important factor in her success, adding that her down-to-earth personality has helped her career.

Falling to second place is Huang Guangyu of China's household electronics giant GOME Electrical Appliances with a fortune of 20 billion yuan (2.5 billion US dollars) after occupying the top spot for the last two years. Huang started his career on a roadside stall in Beijing selling radios and gadgets. GOME now has 560 branches in over 160 cities on the Chinese Mainland and 12 in Hong Kong and Macao.

MNA/Xinhua



Hong Kong movie star Andy Lau, holding the trophy, is awarded this year as Asian Filmmaker of the Year at the 11th Pusan International Film Festival in Busan, South Korea, on 13 Oct, 2006.—INTERNET



Hungarians dressed as ancient Roman soldiers parade in downtown Bucharest on 13 Oct, 2006 celebrating 1900 years since the Balkan kingdom of Dacia was conquered by the Roman Empire.—INTERNET

Eleven escape bus fire in southern Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 Oct— An express bus driver and ten passengers had a narrow escape Wednesday when the bus suddenly caught fire in Malaysia's southernmost Johor State.

The accident took place Wednesday morning in the state capital city of Johor Bahru when the driver found smoke coming from the engine compartment.

He stopped the bus and, together with other passengers, dashed out of it as flames began to spread.

MNA/Xinhua

Students to get help with English

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 Oct—Students at three schools on Pulau Indah will be reading the *New Straits Times* next year, thanks to Westports Malaysia.

The company will be

sponsoring 60 copies of the *New Straits Times* daily to SK Pulau Indah, SK Pulau Indah 2 and SMK Pulau Indah.

Westports Malaysia director Ruben Emir

Gnanalingam said the RM30,000 would be money well spent as it would go towards improving English among children on the island.

"We are also sponsoring this as we are one of the largest employers on the island. Many of the students later go on to become our employees," he said after handing over a mock cheque for the amount to NSTP chief executive officer Datuk Syed Faisal Albar. The company sponsored 50 copies of the *NST* to 10 schools in Port Klang this year.

The *NST* school sponsorship programme, initiated by the Education Ministry, was launched in August last year. A total of 1,300 schools and nearly 400 sponsors are involved in the programme.—Internet

the security threat elsewhere in the world.

"I don't say the difficulties we are experiencing round the world are caused by our presence in Iraq but undoubtedly our presence in Iraq exacerbates them," he said. Dannatt, who took over as chief of the General Staff in August, described Prime Minister Tony Blair's policies as "naive", saying that while Iraqis might have welcomed coalition forces following the ouster of Saddam Hussein, the good

will has evaporated in years of constant attacks.

"Our presence exacerbates the security problems," he said. "Whatever consent we may have had in the first place ... has largely turned to intolerance."

Britain has 7,200 troops in southern Iraq patrolling an area around Basra, a bastion of Shiite militias. A total of 119 British troops have been killed in Iraq since the country joined the US-led invasion three years ago.—MNA/Xinhua

US soldier killed in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 13 Oct— A US soldier was killed and two others wounded in military action in Iraq's northern city, the US military said on Thursday.

"A Task Force Lightning Soldier assigned to 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, was killed and two others were wounded 11 October as a result of enemy action while conducting operations in Kirkuk Province," the military said in a statement.

Over 2,740 US soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003, according to media tally. —MNA/Xinhua



Residents struggle after a current hit their boat in the floods in Intraburi market town of Singburi Province, central Thailand on 13 Oct, 2006. Floods in Thailand's 46 provinces since August have killed 39 people and sickened 138,000 others as over 2 million people have been affected by the flooding while more than 1.5 million rai (620,000 acres, 250,000 hectares) of farmland has been destroyed.—INTERNET

Canada to upgrade Pacific ports for closer trade ties with Asia

OTTAWA, 13 Oct— Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper on Wednesday laid out a plan to upgrade the country's Pacific ports, vowing for Canada to become the crossroads of the huge markets in Asia and the United States.

During a tour in the busy western port of Vancouver, Harper reiterated the Asia Pacific Gateway and Corridor initiative, originally set out by the former Liberal government, according to reports reaching here on Wednesday.

The initiative, costing 591 million Canadian dollars (532 million US dollars), includes improvements to cargo screening at the port of Prince Rupert and a high-tech system to manage container traffic at Vancouver.

Plans also call for the twinning of the Trans-Canada Highway through Banff National Park, expansion of all commercial ports on the West Coast and upgrades to bridges and roads.

"Canada should be the

crossroads between the massive engine of the United States and the burgeoning economies of Asia," Harper said.

Canada is currently responsible for only nine per cent of West Coast container traffic, even though its ports are closer

to Asian markets than is Los Angeles, Harper said.

The key contributors to Canada's economic destiny are the emerging titans of the world—China, Japan, South Korea, India and Indonesia, he noted.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese President Hu Jintao (L 2nd) holds talks with South Korean President Roh Moo-Hyun (R 2nd) in Beijing, on 13 Oct, 2006.—XINHUA



Seismologist Carlos Pullinger explains the situation of the Chaparrastique Volcano, located 145 kilometers (90 miles) east of San Salvador, El Salvador, on 12 Oct, 2006. Authorities in El Salvador declared an alert on Tuesday for an area around the Chaparrastique Volcano after the peak began rumbling ominously.—INTERNET

World's top websites for pirated discs shut down

PENANG, 13 OCT—Two of the world's most active websites linked to the supply of pirated discs worldwide have been operating out of Penang for the past year.

They were being operated separately — the first by a couple in Jelutong and the other by a youth in Ayer Itam.

They were said to be raking in millions of ringgit until the authorities, in simultaneous raids yesterday afternoon, nabbed the suspects and shut down the websites.

Officers from the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry's Internet Piracy team and representatives from the Motion Picture Association (MPA) moved in on them after more than two weeks' surveillance.

In the operation in Jelutong, the raiding party arrested the couple and seized about 1,500 pirated DVDs. In the midst of the operation, a courier turned up at the door with a package.

On inspecting the contents, the raiding party found more pirated DVD copies that were sent from Kuala Lumpur.

It is learnt that the couple received their supply of pirated DVDs from Kuala Lumpur before mailing them to their customers for between US\$7.80 (RM28.86) and US\$34 (RM125.80) for boxed series sets.—Internet

UN official says violence, killings escalate in Iraq

GENEVA, 13 Oct — Violence and killings in Iraq have escalated in the past seven to eight months, with some 100 people killed in the country every day, the United Nations top humanitarian official said here on Wednesday.

Sectarian violence, armed militias and death squads had created a "very worrying deterioration of conditions" for Iraqi civilians, said Jan Egeland, UN Undersecretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, at a Press conference. Many people in Iraq had been killed by gunshots or tortured to death. "Revenge killing seems to be totally out of control," he added.

Apart from this, more than 300,000 Iraqis have been displaced since February, when a Shiite shrine in the city of Samarra was bombed

sparkling waves of violence. According to the official, about 1.2 to 1.5 million Iraqi refugees are now being sheltered in neighbouring countries. Some 2,000 Iraqi refugees cross the border to Syria every day.

Egeland appealed to all

who have influence in Iraq, including religious leaders, government officials and other people, to take necessary measures to halt the violence. He also called on donor countries to keep funding UN humanitarian activities in the country.

MNA/Xinhua



Six years old Jan Maas, wears a pair of special 3D glasses in front of a three dimensional photograph of crater Hale on the planet Mars at the Planetarium in Bochum, Germany, on 12 Oct, 2006. The extraordinary pictures were taken by German high resolution camera at the Mars Express mission of the European Space Agency. The exhibition is now open in Bochum until 30 Dec, 2006.—INTERNET

Chinese small car "Chery QQ" makes good start in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 13 Oct—Since its launch on the Indonesian market last month, Chinese small city car Chery QQ has booked sales of 200 units with more on the waiting list, the local distributor said here.

"We don't expect the demand will be quite big. We also have orders on the waiting list," said Gunadi Shinduwinata, president of the country's leading automotive distributor Indomobil Group. Given the promising market, Indomobil plans to open 11 new outlets across Java and Bali islands, he said.

Manufactured by Chery Automobile Co Ltd, the 800-cc car is priced at around 67 million rupiah (7,334 US dollars), available in standard and luxury models. The manufacturer claimed Chery QQ has the best mileage in its class, with 25 kilometres per litre of gasoline.—MNA/Xinhua

S Korea, Russia to boost economic cooperation

SEOUL, 12 Oct—South Korea and Russia agreed to boost bilateral economic cooperation in fields such as trade, investment, energy and science technology, South Korean officials said on Thursday.

The agreement was reached on Thursday between South Korean Finance Minister Kwon O-kyu and Konstantin Pulikovskiy, head of the Federal Service for the Oversight of the Environ-

ment, Technology and Nuclear Management, in Seoul.

The two sides agreed to sign a memorandum of understating on investment and trade within this year, said the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

The two sides also vowed to accelerate the implementation of an action plan agreed upon in last November between the leaders of the two countries.

During last November's APEC summit in South Korea's Busan City, South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin agreed to actively pursue projects for the linkage of the Trans-Siberian and Trans-Korean railways and the construction of pipelines for the delivery of Russian oil and gasoline to the Korean Peninsula.

MNA/Xinhua



A Japanese competitor flies his kite "Mega Moon" during the International Kite Flying Festival in Niagara, the United States, on 8 Oct, 2006.—XINHUA



Visitors view an untitled piece of art by Anish Kapoor, made from wood and polished stainless steel, at the Frieze Art Fair in Regent's Park in London on 11 Oct, 2006.—INTERNET

A blind man is seen with a white stick on World Sight Day in Belgrade on 12 Oct, 2006. World Sight Day is a global annual event, held under the auspices of "VISION 2020: The Right to Sight," a joint initiative of the World Health Organization and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness.—INTERNET

Index predicts faster growth in Chinese manufacturing

BEIJING, 12 Oct—The China Manufacturing Purchasing Manager's Index (PMI) rose a hefty 3.9 per cent in September on the previous month, indicating faster growth for manufacturing industry in the coming months.

The PMI, which tracks economic activity in China's manufacturing sector each month, stood at 57 per cent in September, according to the latest report from the China Federation of Logistics & Purchasing (CFLP). It was the 21st month in a row

with a PMI over 50 per cent.

The CFLP report attributes the index growth to new purchase orders, high manufacturing output, better raw materials inventory and export contracts.

The purchasing price of raw materials, the only index to go down in the report, indicates less pressure for price hikes in the coming months.

Caijin, director of China Logistics Information Centre, predicted reasonable stability for manufacturing industry.

MNA/Xinhua



Geneva railway closed due to bomb alert

GENEVA, 12 Oct—The main railway station in Geneva, western Switzerland, was closed and evacuated for about two hours on Tuesday afternoon following a bomb alert.

Swiss Federal Railways said the evacuation was carried out just after 6:00 pm (5:00 pm GMT) according to orders of the police, who earlier received an anonymous telephone call saying an explosive device had been put in the railway station.

MNA/Xinhua

Boat sinks in S Greece, 40 migrants missing

ATHENS, 12 Oct—A boat carrying illegal immigrants sank in bad weather off the coast of southern Greece on Tuesday and about 40 people were still missing, Greece's Defence Ministry said.

"The boat sank off the island of Kithira and some of the people were washed

up alive on the nearby island of Antikithira but rescue vessels are still searching for about 40 illegal immigrants," a Defence Ministry official told Reuters.

The official said the figure was an estimate based on accounts from the rescued migrants. Their nationality was not known yet.

MNA/Reuters

Tourists view the tidal bore of the Qiantang River in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 9 Oct, 2006.

XINHUA

Seven killed, 15 injured in S-W China traffic accident

CHONGQING, 12 Oct—Seven people were killed and another 15 were injured in a traffic accident in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, said a local official on Tuesday.

The accident occurred

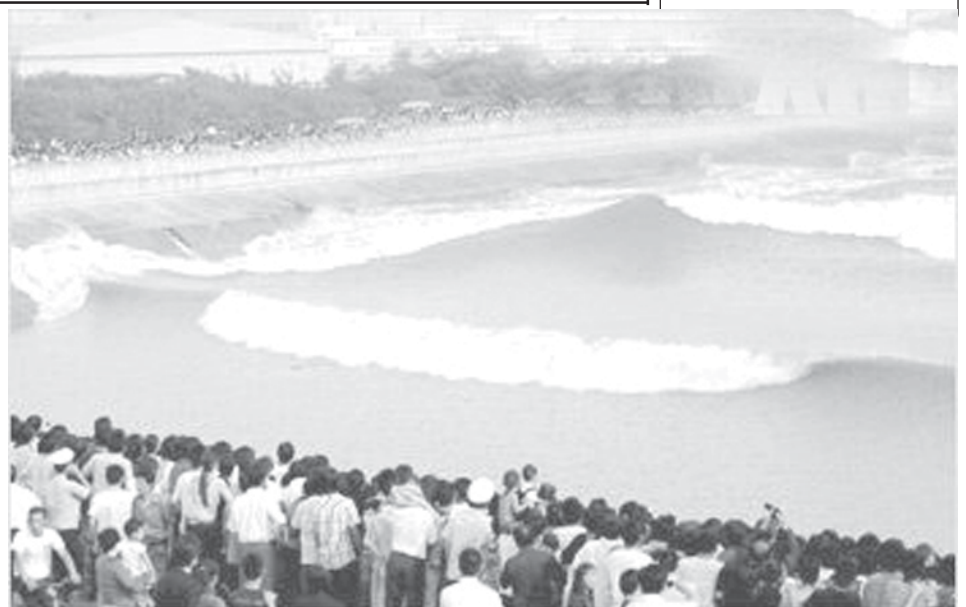
at 10:50 am when a bus with 22 people on board overturned and fell into a river as it wound along the mountain road in the Guofu Township of Qijiang County.

The 15 injured people, including the bus driver

and two children, are all in hospital and one of them is in serious condition.

The bus driver blamed a steering wheel failure but police are still investigating the cause of the accident.

MNA/Xinhua



The Chief Ministers should have the right to...

(from page 16)

3. (a) Members of Region or State Hluttaws shall take oaths before the chairman of Region or State Hluttaw at the first regular session of Region or State Hluttaw.
- (b) Members of Region or State Hluttaw who have not taken oaths, shall take oath before the Speaker of the Hluttaw at the session of the Region or State Hluttaw they first attend
4. The Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw shall convene the regular session of the Region or State Hluttaw at least once a year. The interval between two regular sessions shall not exceed 12 months.
5. The following matters are carried out at the session of the Region or State Hluttaw.
 - (a) Recording the address delivered by the Union President
 - (b) Reading out and recording messages sent by the President and other messages permitted by the Speaker
 - (c) Recording the address delivered by region or state chief minister
 - (d) Submitting, discussing and making decision on a bill
 - (e) Discussing and deciding the matters the Region or State Hluttaw shall implement in accordance with provisions of the Constitution and the existing laws
 - (f) Discussing, deciding and recording the reports presented to the Region or State Hluttaw
 - (g) Submitting proposals, holding discussions and making decisions
 - (h) Raising questions and giving replies
 - (i) Implementing matters permitted by Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw
6. (a) Speaker of respective Region or State Hluttaw can convene special session or emergency session of Region or State Hluttaws if necessary.
- (b) Speaker of respective Region or State Hluttaw shall convene a special or emergency session of region or state as soon as possible when the Region or State Chief Minister informs to do so
- (c) Speaker of respective Region or State Hluttaws shall convene a special session of region or state as soon as possible if at least one-fourth of the Region or State Hluttaw members ask to convene it
7. (a) The first day session of the Region or State Hluttaw is valid if more than half the number of members who have the right to attend the session of the Region or State Hluttaw, are present. The session if invalid shall be adjourned.
- (b) The sessions that are adjourned due to invalidity in accordance with the sub para (a) as well as the valid sessions that are extended are valid if at least one-third of the Hluttaw members, who have the right to attend a session of Region or State Hluttaw are present
8. (a) Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting in the Region or State Hluttaw shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting
 - (b) The Speaker of the Region or State Hluttaw or the Deputy Speaker discharging duties as the Speaker shall not vote in the first instance in the sessions of the Region or State Hluttaws, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the matters of an equality of votes
9. If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of Region or State Hluttaw is, without permission of the Hluttaw, absent from a session of Region or State Hluttaw, the Region or State Hluttaw can declare the seat of the Region or State Hluttaw member vacant in accordance with prescribed provisions. In computing the said period of 15 days, no account shall be taken of any period during which the session is prorogued, or is adjourned.
10. Although there are vacant seats, the Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right to carry out its tasks. Moreover, the session shall not be annulled, if the acts of some person who was not entitled to do so sat or voted or took part in the proceedings are discovered later.
11. The functions and records of the Region or State Hluttaw shall be published for public information. But, the functions and records restricted by a law or decisions of the Region or State Hluttaw shall not be published.
12. Region or State Hluttaw has the power to make laws for the whole or any part of the Region or State concerning matters stated in the Region or State Legislative List
13. (a) When the Region or State Hluttaw enacts a law, it may —
 - (1) entrust the right to issue bylaws, rules and regulations concerning the law to a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution
 - (2) authorize the organization or authority to issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures concerning the law
- (b) The bylaws, rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives and procedures issued with the right vested by a law shall be consonant with the stipulations contained in the Constitution and the law concerned.
- (c) After issuing a bylaw, rules or regulations under the law enacted by Region or State Hluttaw, the organization concerned shall circulate the bylaw, rules or regulations to Hluttaw members during the nearest regular session of the Region or State Hluttaw with the arrangement permitted by the Hluttaw Speaker.
- (d) If the bylaw, rules or regulations are found to be not consonant with the provisions of the law concerned, Region or State Hluttaw members can submit a proposal to annul or amend the by law, rules or regulations to Region or State Hluttaw within 90 days from the date they are circulated.
- (e) If a decision is made by Region or State Hluttaw to annul or amend a bylaw, rules or regulations, the decision shall not affect however without prejudice to the validity of any action previously taken under the bylaw, rules or regulations.
14. (a) Matters that requires decision, assent and approval of Region or State Hluttaw shall be implemented as follows.
 - (1) If the Region or State Hluttaw is in session, the matter shall be decided at that session.
 - (2) If the Region or State Hluttaw is not in session, the discussions and decisions on the matter shall be made at the nearest Region or State Hluttaw session
 - (3) A special session or an emergency session shall be convened to discuss and decide the matters which need prompt action for public interest.
15. (a) Of the matters included in the Region or State Legislative List, the Region or State level organizations formed under the Constitution, can submit bills on matters under their management to the Region or State Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions.
 - (b) Bills on region or state plans, annual budgets and taxation which are to be submitted exclusively by the Region or State Government shall be submitted to the Region or State Hluttaw in accordance with the prescribed provisions.
16. Of the matters included in the Region or State Legislative List, except those prescribed under the Constitution to be submitted exclusively by the Region or State Government, the Region or State Hluttaw members can submit bills on other matters in accordance with the prescribed provisions.
17. Region or State Hluttaw shall make a decision when Region or State Government submits region or state budget in accordance with the prescribed provisions.
18. (a) The Region or State Chief Minister shall
 - (1) sign the bill approved by the Region or State Hluttaw and promulgate it as a law, within seven days after receiving it.
 - (2) sign the bill approved by the Self-Administered Region leading body and promulgate it as a law, within 14 days after receiving it.
- (b) Although the Region or State Chief Minister does not sign the bill and promulgate it as a law with the fixed time, the bill shall come into force in like manner as if he had signed it on the last date of the fixed time.
- (c) The bills signed by the Region or State Chief Minister and bills which have come into force in like manner as if they were signed by him, shall be promulgated in the Union Gazette. The laws shall come into force on the date of such promulgation unless the contrary intention are expressed.
19. (a) Of the members of a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution, members of Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right of discussing and voting concerning bills or matters related to their organizations in the Hluttaw sessions
 - (b) Of the members of a region or state level organization formed under the Constitution, those members who are not Region or State Hluttaw members while attending the session with the permission of Hluttaw Speaker shall have the right of discussing concerning bills or matters related to their organizations

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20. The Speaker of Region or State Hluttaw shall—
- supervise Region or State Hluttaw sessions
 - invite the Union President if he informs him of his desire to address the Region or State Hluttaw session
 - make necessary arrangements when the Region or State Chief Minister informs him of his desire to address he wishes
 - have the right, if necessary, to invite members or persons of region or state level organization formed under the Constitution to the Region or State Hluttaw session to make clarification as regards matters under discussion
 - perform other duties and responsibilities entrusted by the Constitution or a law
21. (a) Subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions stipulated in the Region or State Hluttaw Law, members of Region or State Hluttaw have freedom of speech and voting at the Region or State Hluttaw as well as at Region or State Hluttaw committee and organization. Concerning the discussions and functions, a Region or State Hluttaw member shall be privileged except under the Region or State Hluttaw Law.
- (b) Subject to the provisions stated in the Constitution and provisions stipulated in the Region or State Hluttaw Law, members or persons who are permitted or invited to attend Region or State Hluttaw session have freedom of speech at the Region or State Hluttaw or Region or State Hluttaw committee and organizations. Concerning such discussions, they shall be privileged except under the Region or State Hluttaw Law.
- (c) Action shall be taken against those members stated in sub para (a) and (b) in accordance with the existing laws if they make physical assault in enjoying the privileges
22. (a) If there arises a need to arrest a Region or State Hluttaw member attending a Region or State Hluttaw session or a person attending the Hluttaw session with the permission or at the invitation of the Hluttaw Speaker, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Hluttaw Speaker. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Hluttaw Speaker.
- (b) If there arises a need to arrest a member of a committee or an organization formed by the Region or State Hluttaw attending a session of the committee or organization, the reliable evidence shall be submitted to the Hluttaw Speaker through the head of the committee or organization concerned. He shall not be arrested without prior permission of the Hluttaw Speaker.
- (c) If there arises a need to arrest a member of Region or State Hluttaw or committee or organization formed by the Hluttaw while the Hluttaw or the committee or the organization is not in session, reliable evidence in support of such arrest shall promptly be submitted to the Region or State Hluttaw Speaker.
23. The reports, documents and records published by the Region or State Hluttaw or under its authority shall be privileged.

Esteemed delegates,

The National Unity Party of delegate group of

political parties, comprising seven political parties, sees the proposals concerning the Region or State Hluttaw are centering on parliamentary functions. Moreover, the proposals also aim at ensuring a Region or State Hluttaw to carry out its tasks in harmony with central level hluttaws and the constitution. Hence, they are appropriate.

In presenting a separate suggestion, the party said, a detailed basic principle states, "If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of Region or State Hluttaw is, without permission of the Hluttaw, absent from a session of Region or State Hluttaw, the Region or State Hluttaw can declare the seat of the Region or State Hluttaw member vacant in accordance with prescribed provisions."

As the hluttaw members are the residents of their respective Regions and States, transport and communication are easier for them if compared with the members of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw. So, the period of 15 consecutive days is appropriate for this matter.

But the declaration of the seat of the Region or State Hluttaw member vacant in accordance with prescribed provisions should be made only if it can be ascertained that the cause is due to the member himself.

The party finds that the detailed basic principle, which says that if the bylaw, rules or regulations are found to be not consonant with the provisions of the law concerned, a proposal can be submitted to annul or amend the bylaw, rules or regulations is comprehensive and in harmony with the procedures of the central level hluttaws.

As there are differences in legal essence, the matters that are to be annulled or amended should be scrutinized to ascertain whether mistakes are made inadvertently or not, and a study should be conducted to measure the extent of the adverse effects caused by the mistake.

Points contained in the matters that requires decision, assent and approval of Region or State Hluttaw and the submission of bill by the Region or State level organizations formed under the Constitu-

The declaration of the seat of the Region or State Hluttaw member vacant in accordance with prescribed provisions should be made only if it can be ascertained that the cause is due to the member himself.

tion are appropriate.

According to the point "Region or State Hluttaw shall make a decision when Region or State Government submits region or state budget in accordance with the prescribed provisions" it seems that Region or State Hluttaw can make decisions without holding any discussions or coordination.

In addition, it is said the submission of annual budgets and revenues shall be discussed and decided in accord with the procedures. The annual budget is important for the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as well as the Region or State Hluttaw.

Thus, thorough discussion and coordination should be made. Hence, we would like to add the words "hold discussions" in the said point as follows:

"Region or State Hluttaw shall hold discussions and make a decision when Region or State Government submits region or state budget in accordance with the prescribed provisions"

The functions of the Chief Minister cover the task to make contacts with the Region or State Hluttaw concerned. The President in signing and issuing bills passed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has the right to send his comments regarding the bills.

The President is the Head of State. The Chief Minister can be assumed the head of the Region or State concerned. Although the head of state or the

chief ministers send back the bills with amendments, it is only the hluttaw that has the power to make final decisions whether to make amendments or not. In our opinion, it will be in the interest of the nation and the region or state if the head of state or the chief minister makes amendments for the short-term significant occurrence. Hence, the Chief Minister shall have the right to send their opinions and hold discussions on the bills passed by the Region or State Hluttaw.

In our view, it is appropriate that members of Region or State Hluttaw have freedom of speech and voting at the Region or State Hluttaw as well as at Region or State Hluttaw committee and organization. But we have suggestions concerning the action taken against the members for committing physical assaults.

We would like to amend the sub para (c) of the point 21 as "Action shall be taken against those members stated in sub para (a) and (b) in accordance with the existing laws and the rules and regulations of the Region or State Hluttaw if they make physical assault in enjoying the privileges."

Esteemed delegates,

The Union Pa-O National Organization said, "The Work Committee Chairman thoroughly explained the legislative functions of the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Region or State Hluttaw. So, we members of the Union Pa-O National Organization suggest that 28 detailed basic principles for functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, 19 detailed basic principles for legislative functions of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw and 23 detailed basic principles for legislative functions of Region or State Hluttaw clarified by the Work Committee Chairman be adopted as detailed basic principles.

"Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization in its suggestions said, "When we study the clarification of the Work Committee Chairman regarding the legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaw, we noticed the 23 detailed basic principles are appropriate, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

"Lahu National Development Party said that in drawing State constitution at the National Conven-

tion, the Work Committee Chairman's clarifications to the legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, and the Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the Chapter "Legislation" are appropriate excerpts from the 1947 constitution, the 1974 constitution, and functions exercised by world nations. So, the 28 detailed basic principles laid down for the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the 19 detailed basic principles for the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw, and the 23 detailed basic principles for the Region and State Hluttaw should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

The Union Kayin League said the Work Committee Chairman has made thorough clarification to the detailed basic principles for legislative functions. So, it has no further suggestions on the legislative sector.

It said that the 28 points on legislation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the 19 points on legislation of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw and the 23 points on legislation of the Region or State Hluttaw should be laid down as detailed basic principles.

Kokang Democracy and Unity Party said that the detailed basic principles explained by the Work Committee Chairman on legislative functions and relations of Hluttaws are firm and precise and there

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are systematic links on functions of the Hluttaws (between one Hluttaw and another). They thoroughly cover current international, regional and internal situations in the political and social aspects. It said that it has thus no further suggestions to the explanations.

It said that the functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw, the rules and regulations for Hluttaw members, and matters on taking action against Hluttaw members explained by the Work Committee Chairman are reasonable, and so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Wa National Development Party said that the 23 points on detailed basic principles for legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaw the Work Committee Chairman explained are found appropriate, so they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Esteemed delegates,

Of the four proposal papers submitted by the delegate group of representatives-elect, the stances of the representatives of the National Unity Party and Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization have been presented through the coordination of the political parties concerned of the delegate group of political parties. The suggestions of respective representatives are the same as those discussions.

Representatives-elect Dr Hmu Htan of Thantlang Township constituency in Chin State, U Aung Thein of Ywangan Township constituency in southern Shan State and U Tun Kyaw of Namhsan Township constituency in Shan State (North) from the delegate group of representatives-elect said that the clarifications the Work Committee Chairman made are appropriate, and so they have no further suggestions about these points. The points the Work Committee Chairman clarified regarding legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the Chapter "Legislation" in writing State constitution should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Independent representatives-elect of the delegate groups of representatives-elect—U Tin Win of Kyaiklat Township constituency-2, U Thein Kyi of Taungdwingyi Township constituency-1, U Hla Soe of Minbu Township constituency-2, U Mya Hlaing of Twantay Township constituency-2, U Kyi Win of Mingaladon Township constituency-1 and U Tin Tun Maung of Mingaladon Township constituency-2—said that the 23 points regarding the Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the Chapter "Legislation" in framing State constitution explained by the Work Committee Chairman should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

The 23 points the Work Committee Chairman presented regarding legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the Chapter "Legislation" in drawing State constitution should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

As a separate suggestion, they said that one of the detailed basic principles of the Hluttaws is "The decision of a Hluttaw shall not be annulled, even if the acts of a person who was not entitled to attend the Hluttaw meeting, sat or voted or took part in the proceedings are discovered later".

The purpose is to be able to avert possible negative effects on the decisions and activities carried out by the Hluttaw concerned due to the acts of such a person.

Making a decision through voting and approving a matter in Hluttaws is very important. That is part of democracy system. So, it doesn't matter if the vote of a person who is not entitled does not have any effect on the decision or approval. But, it does matter if a matter is approved or annulled due to his vote. It is a point to be considered. In other words, if his vote may be the decisive vote. For instance, the Hluttaw Speaker has to cast a vote in the matter of an equality of votes due to the vote of the person in question. And, originally the number of Hluttaw members present does not meet half or two-thirds of a sufficient number, but it is so due to his attendance. Hence, they suggested that representative scrutiny work should be carried out systematically.

Representative scrutiny work should be carried out systematically.

Esteemed delegates,

The delegate group of national races suggested that the points presented by the Work Committee Chairman regarding legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaw should be adopted.

As a separate suggestion, a Hluttaw member has the right to cast a vote for or against or abstention, and that is also practised at the Hluttaws of world nations and at the UN assemblies.

It has been suggested that the principle "Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting" should be laid down.

And in the clarification of the Work Committee Chairman, it was suggested that "A Hluttaw member has the right to stay neutral if he does not wish to cast a vote" should be added to No 8 (A) of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, para 7 (A) (1) and 7 (B) (1) of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw and No 8 (A) of the Region or State Hluttaw.

Esteemed delegates,

The delegate group of peasants said that it found the points discussed by the Work Committee Chairman regarding legislative functions or relations of the Hluttaws, so these points should be adopted as detailed basic principles. It said that it had no further suggestions about the points.

Esteemed delegates,

The delegate group of workers said that the points discussed by the Work Committee Chairman regarding legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaw are compiled in conformity with the prevailing situations the nation and the people are now facing, and they are found most appropriate to the nation.

So, these points based on the facts compiled by the Work Committee Chairman should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Esteemed delegates,

The delegate group of intellectuals and intelligentsia said that they submit their proposals with their suggestions, amendments and views and sup-

port the 23 points discussed by the Work Committee Chairman regarding legislative functions of the Region and State Hluttaw.

As a separate suggestion, members of the group said that para (8) says "Save as otherwise provided by this Constitution, a matter that should be decided through voting in the Region or State Hluttaw shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting."

The person discharging duties as the Speaker shall not vote in the first instance in the sessions of the Region or State Hluttaws, but shall have and exercise a casting vote in the matters of an equality of votes. In the clarification, the vote the Speaker has to cast is mentioned "casting vote". The words "casting vote" is correct in meaning, but in essence in original Myanmar Language, it means it is in favour of one side, and against the other side. So, they said, "We think the term "decisive vote" is more suitable than the term "casting vote". We prefer the term "decisive vote" to the term "casting vote". If so, the meaning of the term is more significant and clearer, and that will enhance the role and prestige of the Speakers.

Para (9) says "If for a period of 15 consecutive days a member of the Region or State Hluttaw is, without permission of the Hluttaw concerned, absent from a session of the Region or State Hluttaw, the Region or State Hluttaw can declare the seat of that member vacant in accordance with prescribed provisions. In computing the said period of 15 days, no account shall be taken of any period during which the session is prorogued, or is adjourned", and para (10) says "Although there are vacant seats, the Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right to carry out its tasks. Moreover, the decision shall not be annulled, if the acts of a person who was not entitled to attend the Hluttaw meeting sat or voted or took part in the proceedings are discovered later". We would like to suggest that the phrase "a person who is not entitled" be replaced with the phrase "a person or persons who are not entitled".

Esteemed delegates,

The delegate group of State service personnel suggested that the 23 points discussed by the Work Committee Chairman regarding legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the chapter "Legislation" in writing State constitution should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

Esteemed delegates,

Now, I have presented a collection of the assessments of the panel of alternate chairmen of the National Convention on the proposal papers of the delegate groups of the National Convention, political parties from the delegate group of political parties, and delegates of some delegate groups regarding the points the Work Committee Chairman explained as to whether the detailed basic principles should be adopted for legislative functions of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Pyithu Hluttaw, the Amyotha Hluttaw and the Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the chapter "Legislation" in drawing State constitution.

Overall, the majority of the delegates are in support of the points the Work Committee has explained and suggested they should be adopted as detailed basic principles.

And some delegates not only held discussions in favour of the points but also made separate suggestions.

MNA

Bago Division puts 530,000 acres...

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in order to achieve the goal, he added. Again, Okpo township is to actively participate in the growing of 500,000 acres of physic nut in three years for diesel-substitute bio-fuel. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said measures are to be taken to ensure regional peace and security and rule of law. Service personnel need to make field trips right down to the grassroots in implementing the five rural development tasks.

Afterwards, well-wishers U Maung Thaung and Daw Kyi Win of Aung Thaung Co handed over documents related to fire engines worth K 40 million to Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than greeted those present and inspected Fuso fire engine and Isuzu fire engine.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected maintenance of



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspects fire engines donated by U Maung Thaung and Daw Kyi Win of Aung Thaung Co. — MNA

Yangon-Pyay Road.

In Pantin Village of Okpo Township, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected 500 acres of monsoon paddy plantations.

This year, Bago Division (East) has put 330,000 acres of land under monsoon paddy and Bago Division (West), 200,000 acres of monsoon paddy, totalling 530,000.

At the hall of Inma Station, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with Tatmadawmen and family members.

Lt-Gen Khin

Maung Than inspected 3.65 acres of physic nut plants in the compound of Pyay Airport. He also viewed physic nut plantation of Bago Division (West) Police Force.

Departments concerned have grown 100 acres of physic nut plants at the airport.

Bago Division (West) is nurturing physic saplings to grow 200,000 acres of physic nut in 2006-07. While in Pyay, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than inspected development tasks by car.

MNA

Educative course for housewives opens

YANGON, 14 Oct — The opening ceremony of instructor course for housewives to perform family health care services with traditional medicine conducted by Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee was held at Traditional Medicine Hospital

(Yangon) this morning.

Firstly, Medical Superintendent Dr Thein Kyaw extended greetings.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win presented K 200,000 donated by Yangon Division PDC to

Chairperson Daw Mar Mar Wai of Yangon Division MCWSC.

Next, the commander and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai accepted over K 3 million donated by 37 wellwishers.

Altogether 70 trainees are now attending the four-day course.

MNA

Using UN as a tool, US plotted to impede process of National Convention

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Oct — The Arakan Army (AA) issued a declaration officially expressing its stance on the decision to put Myanmar on the agenda of the UN Security Council.

The following is the full text of the declaration:

The declaration of Arakan Army (AA)

25 September 2006

1. Due to the submission of the permanent US representative to the UN that Myanmar's situation is posing a threat to regional peace and stability, a decision was made on 15 September 2006 to put Myanmar on the agenda of the UNSC.

2. The US, using the UN as a tool, is interfering in Myanmar's internal affairs and its attempt to put pressure on Myanmar is not conformity with the UN Charter. Furthermore, there prevails peace and stability and Myanmar has achieved development to a certain degree. Hence, we believe it is an impossible accusation against Myanmar posing a threat to regional peace and stability.

3. Our organization view that the US, using the UN as a tool, is (a) plotting to impede process of the National Convention being held with the participation of people from all walks of life in line with the seven-step Road Map, and

(b) not only disturbing the prevalence of law and order and national solidarity of the nation but also hindering the process to build a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

4. As such, the Arakan Army (AA) strongly protests against such evil acts of the US and our organization condemns the interference of the US in Myanmar internal affairs.

Signed
Leader
U Khine Lin Naing



Commander Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai grow herbal plants at Traditional Medicine Hospital in Bahan Township. — MNA

CSSTB members inspect staff officer post examination

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Oct — The writing examination for vacant staff officer posts of the Relief and Resettlement Department, organized by the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, was

held at Basic Education High School No 1 and No 2 in Pyinmana today.

Members of CSSTB U Hla Myint Oo and U Win Aung, Director-General U Hla Kyi of Civil Service

Selection and Training Department and officials inspected the examination centres.

A total of 830 candidates sat for the examination.

MNA

Coxsackie virus adds to India's health woes

LUCKNOW (India), 14 Oct — At least one child a day has died in India's most populous state of Uttar Pradesh since April after being infected with Coxsackie B virus, which spreads in unsanitary conditions, officials said on Thursday.

Most of the 202 recorded deaths due to Coxsackie B have occurred in the state's impoverished east where poor public hygiene is common, officials said, adding that all of the known victims were children.

At the same time, poor public sanitation has also fuelled an outbreak of dengue fever across north, south and west India that started in late August as the monsoon rains began to taper off, claiming at least 84 lives and infecting more than 4,000 people.

Coxsackie B virus is spread by contaminated food or water and gains access to the body through the mouth by faecal or oral transmission or even by infected mucosal secretions.

The latest deaths come a year after encephalitis killed around 1,500 children in Uttar Pradesh, a sprawling state of more than 170 million people and a ramshackle public healthcare system.

"The only way to keep this virus away is by ensuring good sanitation standards and maintaining supply of clean drinking water," T.N. Dhole, professor of microbiology at a state-run medical institute in Lucknow, the state capital, told *Reuters*.

MNA/Reuters

14 turbines ready to generate power on Three Gorges Dam

YICHANG (Hubei), 14 Oct — Fourteen power turbines on the Three Gorges Dam are ready to generate electricity, a local official said on Thursday.

The turbines are capable of generating power in full load once the water level in the Three Gorges reservoir reaches the 148-metre mark, which has been recorded on Monday, said Ma Zhenbo, director of the Three Gorges Power Plant in Yichang, central China's Hubei Province.

The water level is currently being raised from 135.5 to 156 metres, and it reached 152.43 metres on Thursday.

The water storage started on September 20 when one of the 14 power-producing generators was shut down to reduce water flowing downstream. Water from the upstream is flowing into the Three Gorges reservoir at a rate of 16,300 cubic metres per second, satisfying demands of all the 14 turbines for power generation, Ma said.

MNA/Xinhua

Air-born baby aboard Kuwaiti aircraft gets 18-year free flight

KUWAIT CITY, 14 Oct — A baby girl who was born aboard a Kuwait-based Jazeera Airways flight will be free of charge on any airline of the carrier until 2024, London-based Middle East Online reported Thursday on its website edition.

On Wednesday, the baby was delivered by a travelling doctor and two crew members en route from Kuwait City to Alexandria, a northern Egypt city, the report said.

Heba Majdy, eight-month pregnant mother of the baby, had got doctor's permission before she boarded the aircraft. But she went into labour unexpectedly at an altitude of 30,000 feet and 50 minutes before it was due to reach the Mediterranean City.

The baby girl, named Nancy, was delivered by gynaecologist and maternity specialist Mohammed al-Saleh, who was a passenger going to Alexandria on vacation.

After the Airbus A320 landed in Alexandria, a medical team transported the mother and the

newborn baby to hospital. Marwan Boodia, Chairman of the Jazeera Airways, said later that the

low-fare carrier has decided to offer the girl free flights until she turns 18. — MNA/Xinhua

Torrential rains cause damage to some roads, railroads in some regions Flood-victims evacuated and provided with relief aids

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Oct — Torrential rains recently caused flooding from overflow of rivers and creeks in many parts of the country.

The heavy rain caused damages to some bridges on Bhamo-Mandalay road in Kachin State on 7 and 9 October. Therefore, the road was temporarily closed and the bridges are being repaired.

In Sagaing Division, flooding caused damage to some rail tracks between Kunhla and Kanbalu stations, between Kanpya Village of YeU Township and Tinteinyan Village and the railroad near Kaingdaw Village of Kyunhla Township. Hence, the rail tracks are being repaired.

People from some villages in flooded area of Kani, and Dabayin Townships were evacuated to safety and some schools were temporarily closed. Officials provided necessary assistance to them at the relief camps.

Some roads in Ywathit Pwekyo Ward in Magway are under water. Due to the landslides on Kalay-Gangaw railroad section, some railway schedules were postponed. Superintending Engineer (Civil) U Hsan Lwin and officials are repairing the railroad section.

In Mandalay Division, three wards in Aungmyethazan Township, three wards in

Chana yethazan Township, seven wards in Chanmyathazi Township and five wards in Pyigyidagun Township were flooded. Five persons died due to falling of a rain tree. Some families in inundated area were evacuated to safety, and some schools were closed temporarily.

Some villages near Zawgyi River were flooded, and family members of 166 houses in Sunye Village in Singaing Township were resettled to safety. While taking a bathe at the natural spring, 11 villagers from Taungpawtaung Village of Kyaukpadaung Township were swept away.

People and animals in flooded areas of some villages in Amarapura, Myittha, Patheingyi and Wundwin Townships were evacuated to safety. Officials are performing relief work.

In Singaing Township, Myitnge Bridge and Yangon-Mandalay Railroad are being flooded. Due to the inundation, two persons in Singaing Township and one in Kyaukse Township died.

Due to the torrential rains, the railroad between Minsu Station and Myittha Station are under water. Since 9 October, Mandalay-Yangon railroad is being closed temporarily. The trains that left Yangon for Mandalay arrived at Thazi Station on 9 October

evening. Vehicles of Road Transport transported the passengers from the trains to Mandalay Station on 10 October.

On 11 October, 37 vehicles of Road Transport transported the passengers who will leave Mandalay for Yangon to Thedaw Station, and then the passengers continued their trip to Yangon by train.

Likewise, 35 vehicles carried the passengers from 29-up train, 17-up train, 3-up train and 5-up train who spent the night at Thabyedaung Station in Myittha Township to Thedaw Station, and afterwards, the passengers went to Mandalay by train.

At 1 pm on 11 October, 30-down, 18-down, 4-down and 6-down trains left for Yangon from Thedaw Station.

The floods caused damage to 23 houses in Bandabin and Khabyat villages in Pyapon District. Flood-victims were evacuated to the relief camps and provided with health care services.

Officials concerned are repairing damaged railroads and motor roads for ensuring better transportation. Local Tatmdawmen, members of social organizations and officials are performing relief tasks and providing necessary assistance to the flood-victims.

MNA



South Korean pop singer Rain, center, performs during a World Tour Premiere to promote his fourth album in Seoul, on 13 Oct, 2006. Rain will hold his world concert tour for six months from December in 12 countries including the US, Japan and Hong Kong. INTERNET

Ghanaian President says Africa wants to engage with China

ACCRA, 13 Oct — Africa wants to engage with China as it becomes increasingly influential in the world, Ghanaian President John Kufuor said here on Wednesday.

Africa is determined to seek partners who can help implement the New Partnership of Africa Development (NEPAD), an ambitious blueprint for Africa's future development and self reliance after decades of post-independence construction.

"China is looming as a world economic power and naturally .. Africa wants to engage with China," Kufuor said in an exclusive interview with *Xinhua*.

Although rich in natural resources, Africa has long lagged far behind the global development. Traditional friendship and newly-

formed economic ties between China and Africa could help bring investment and technology into the continent, Kufuor said. His comments came ahead of the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) due to be held from November 3-5. The conference, to be attended by some 30 African heads of state or government including Kufuor, will be the highest-level and largest-scale meeting between Chinese and African leaders since China and African countries started to forge cooperative ties in the 1950s.

The year of 2006 has been described as China's "Year of Africa" as several important events concerning China-Africa relations fall in this year.

China released the African policy at the beginning of this year, putting forward its proposals for all-round cooperation with Africa in various fields in the coming years. — MNA/Xinhua



Singapore's President S.R. Nathan, follows behind Ivan Gasparovic, President of the Slovak Republic, as they inspect an honor guard during a welcome ceremony, on 13 Oct, 2006, in Singapore at the Istana or Presidential Palace. — INTERNET

Three killed in aircraft crash in south Africa

JOHANNESBURG, 13 Oct — Three people were killed in a light aircraft that went missing after it took off from Pietermaritzburg, about 550 kilometres south of Johannesburg.

Santjie White, spokeswoman for the SA Search and Rescue Organization, said that the plane with the bodies of three occupants was found Wednesday morning at Rhino's Peak in the southern Drakensberg, near Underberg in KwaZulu-Natal Province. The aircraft took off

from Cato Ridge, near Pietermaritzburg, on Tuesday afternoon but never arrived at its intended destination, Tempe in Bloemfontein.

A ground search in the Drakesberg near Himeville on Tuesday evening turned up no results. By Wednesday morning, poor weather in the area lifted, allowing police and a team from the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) to conduct an aerial search, said police spokeswoman Superintendent Zandra Hechter. — MNA/Xinhua



A 106-meter high statue of Emperors Yan and Huang was built in Zhengzhou, the capital of Henan Province. The statue is eight meters higher than the Statue of Liberty in New York and took 20 years to complete. — XINHUA

Dengue fever claims more lives in southern Vietnam

HANOI, 13 Oct — Dengue fever has so far this year killed 43 people in Vietnam's southern region, up 39 per cent over the same period last year, according to sources from the country's Health

Ministry on Thursday.

The Mekong Delta provinces of An Giang, Bac Lieu and Hau Giang suffered most of the fatalities with respective figures of 7, 5 and 4, the sources said, noting that the deaths were among 47,000 infection cases since the beginning of this year. Most of the cases were reported in the Mekong Delta, where weather conditions and local people's habit of storing water in containers at their houses favour the breeding of mosquitoes — the disease's transmitter.

The ministry is asking residents in localities nationwide to keep on cleaning environment around their accommodations, including keeping water containers clean and killing mosquitoes and their larva.

Vietnam reported 49,400 cases of dengue fever infections, including 51 fatalities, last year, down 32.7 per cent and 49.5 per cent respectively from the previous year, according to the country's General Statistics Office.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing hikes compensation for people who die helping others

BEIJING, 13 Oct — The families of Good Samaritans who lose their lives rescuing other people in Beijing will receive 200,000 yuan (25,000 US dollars) up from 50,000 yuan, local media reported on Wednesday.

Applications for compensation should be filed within 30 days of the act of bravery and must be accompanied by evidence. the *Beijing Times* said. Favourable policies were also introduced for the children of those who die helping others. They will be granted 10 extra points on their entrance exams for high schools and polytechnic schools.

MNA/Xinhua



Contestants for the upcoming Miss International Beauty Pageant display their national costumes during a show to the press in Tokyo, Japan, on 13 Oct, 2006. Beauties from 42 countries and regions will compete for the crown at the 46th Miss International Beauty Pageant in Beijing, capital of China, in November. — XINHUA

52 suffer food poisoning in S China primary school

GUANGZHOU, 13, Oct — Fifty-two pupils and teachers from a primary school in south China were hospitalized with food poisoning on Wednesday.

The health bureau of Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong Province, said 50 pupils and two teachers from the school attached to Sun Yat-sen University suffered abdominal pain and vomiting from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm.

A preliminary analysis by the city's Haizhu District disease prevention and control centre showed that victims suffered a bacterial food poisoning.

A bureau investigation found the food poisoning was probably caused by soya milk and red bean cakes that the sufferers ate for a break-time snack.

The food was supplied by Guangzhou Hongyi Food Co, Ltd. — MNA/Xinhua

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26 hospitalized after insecticide leak in Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG, 13 Oct— Twenty-six South African call centre workers — two of whom pregnant — were hospitalized after insecticide leaked into the air conditioning during “routine fumigation work”, *South African Press Association* reported on Thursday.

The incident occurred on Wednesday, at the company’s headquarters in Johannesburg. The common insecticide used in building fumigation leaked into the area where 90 call centre night staff serving the US and South African operations were working. The employees were then evacuated.—*MNA/Xinhua*

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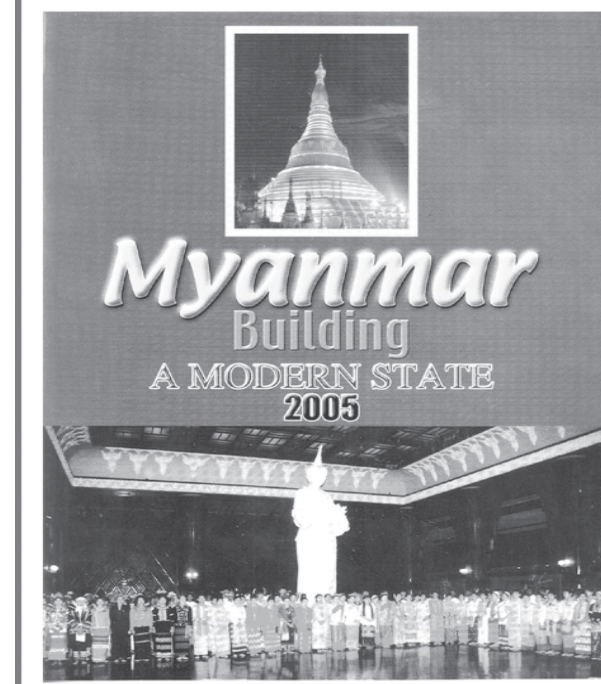
Vietnam to issue restricted foreign investment list

HANOI, 13 Oct — Vietnam will soon publicize a list of fields which either forbid or restrict foreign investment, including banking, insurance, telecommunications, maritime and advertisement, under its WTO commitments, local newspaper *Vietnam Economic Times* reported Thursday.

The list, which is being translated from Vietnamese into English, is much likely to be issued in November, the newspaper quoted Pham Manh Dung, head of the Legal Department under the Ministry of Planning and Investment, as saying.

Under the list, foreign investment in around a dozen of fields, including banking, insurance, telecommunications, financial services, maritime, advertisement, and real estate business, will be restricted.

Specifically, foreign investors will be allowed to hold at mostly 49 per cent of capital in maritime enterprises in Vietnam, and 51 per cent of that in telecommunications backbone line operators,



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Indonesia apologizes to Malaysia, Singapore for haze

JAKARTA, 13 Oct — Indonesia has offered its apologies to the governments and peoples of Singapore and Malaysia for haze produced by bushfires in Indonesia that had affected them, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said.

“It is appropriate for me to apologize for the problem although the bushfires are obviously not the result of deliberate

action by Indonesia,” *Antara* newsagency quoted the President as saying at a Press conference here Wednesday.

Malaysia had expressed disappointment for the past few days over the impact of haze that came from bushfires in Indonesia that had affected not only public health but also the economic sector in that country.

The President said Indonesia would hire Russian aircraft to be used to extinguish the bushfires in areas that produced the most haze.

“I have decided to hire Russian aircraft such as *Iluyshin* to immediately extinguish the fires,” he said.

The President had

summoned his three coordinating ministers, National Defence Forces Commander Marshal Djoko Suyatno, Foreign Minister Hassan Wirajuda, Riau Governor Rusli Zainal and Central Kalimantan Governor Teras Narang to discuss the bushfires problem.

“We have to hire two planes each capable of carrying 40 tons of water,” he said.

The President said environment ministers from the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) planned to meet in Pekanbaru, Riau, on Friday to discuss efforts for the solution of the problem. He said other ministers concerned would also attend the meeting to discuss bushfire extinguishing technology.

MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan sees 41 ml cellphone subscribers

ISLAMABAD, 14 Oct — With a population of 160 million, Pakistan had 41.5 million cellphone users by the end of September 2006, according to Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) Thursday.

The cellphone users had 34 million users by the end of last fiscal year 2005-06 ending on 30 June, 2006, and during the first quarter of fiscal 2006-07 starting from 1 July, 2006, Pakistan saw almost seven million fresh cellphone customers, according to PTA. Pakistan’s telecommunication sector is growing fast and has received 1,905-million-US-dollar foreign direct investment (FDI) in year 2005-06 ending on 30 June, 2006, or 54 per cent of the total FDI poured in the

country during the same year. Officials said the country had a 25-per-cent

mobile density rate by September 2006.

MNA/Xinhua

Blind contestants play Chinese chess during the Chess and Card Contest for the Blind in Qinhuangdao, a coastal city in north China’s Hebei Province, on 13 Oct, 2006. The contest was held by the Disabled Persons’ Federation of Qinhuangdao to greet the White Cane Safety Day, which falls on 15 Oct.—Xinhua



ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Park visitors sit on deck-chairs in Hyde Park in central London on 12 Oct, 2006. The temperature in London reached 19 degrees Celsius (66 degrees Fahrenheit), four degrees Celsius (7 degrees Fahrenheit) above the average temperature for October.—INTERNET

China spends a tenth of NASA budget on space activities

BEIJING, 13 Oct — The Chinese Government spends less than a tenth of NASA's budget on space activities, an official said here Thursday.

The proposed 2007 budget of the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) on civil space programmes was nearly 17 billion dollars, while China's budget was less than one tenth of that figure, said Sun Laiyan, administrator of China National Space Administration. As a

developing country, China ensured its space activities served its economic and social development and science technology development, he said.

"In fact, we spend quite little on what we need to do," Sun said. The Chinese Government had altogether spent about 19 billion yuan (2.4 billion

US dollars) on the first five Shenzhou spacecraft.

The first Shenzhou unmanned experimental spacecraft was launched in 1999. Three more Shenzhou unmanned experimental spacecraft were launched in rapid succession. On 15 and 16 October, 2003, it launched and retrieved Shenzhou V, China's first manned spacecraft, according to the white paper "China's Space Activities in 2006" published by the government Thursday.

The government spent less than one billion yuan (125 million US dollars) on the Shenzhou VI manned spacecraft last October, with two astronauts on board, Sun said.

He said the budget for the first stage of China's lunar exploration programme was just over one billion yuan (125 million US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua

World's 5th largest gold, copper reserves found in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 13 Oct — The world's fifth largest reserves of gold and copper were discovered in Chaghi area in Pakistan's southwest Balochistan Province, local newspaper The News reported on Thursday.

Director General of Provincial Department of Mineralogy Maqbool Ahmed said that two multinationals, Canadian and Chilean-firms, which were issued licenses 10 years earlier for exploration of gold in the Bekodik area, have completed the exploration work and have chalked out a project for the extraction of gold and copper. In the preliminary stage, the two companies will invest a billion US

dollars in the project, Ahmed said.

According to Ahmed, 200,000 tons of copper and 400,000 ounce of gold will be produced annually through the said project.

The Balochistan Government will get a share of 25 per cent. With the start of the project, employment will be provided to 3,000 youth of the province.

MNA/Xinhua



E. Coli O157:H7, cattle manure from a ranch in California's Salinas Valley carries E. coli bacteria that match the strain that killed three Americans and sickened 200, state and federal health officials said on 12 Oct, 2006.—XINHUA

Beluga whales helping children with autism in China

HARBIN, 13 Oct — Touching, feeding and training beluga whales is helping 16 children suffering from autism in northeast China.

The children, all under 10 years of age are working with the whales at the Polarland Aquarium in Harbin, capital of Heilongjiang Province.

Experts said that the sounds by beluga whales can help to treat infantile autism by stimulating the children's nerve cells, which will be more effective when the children make direct contacts with the animals. The children spend 30 minutes, three times a week with the whales which are from the Arctic Circle near Russia.

After a 20-day course of treatment the children are given medicines and get supportive therapy.

Dolphins have been used in other parts of the world to help stimulate children with autism, experts said.

MNA/Xinhua

Singaporean, Indonesian leaders discuss haze pollution

SINGAPORE, 13 Oct — Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong Thursday had a telephone conversation with Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, agreeing that a comprehensive long-term solution was needed to prevent the haze problem from recurring.

According to a statement issued by Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Yudhoyono assured Lee that Indonesia was determined to take effective measures to prevent the forest fires currently causing the haze.

Lee told Yudhoyono that Singapore welcomed Indonesia's decision to host the Sub-Regional Environment Ministerial

Meeting on Trans-boundary Haze Pollution on Friday.

He added that his

country would give Indonesia its full support, according to the statement.—MNA/Xinhua



A motorbike passes as haze from wildfires blanket the area in Pelelawan, Riau Province, Sumatra Island, Indonesia on 13 Oct, 2006.—INTERNET

British council rejects toxic ship scrap plan

LONDON, 13 Oct — A city council in northern England on Thursday threw out controversial plans to scrap ageing former US naval vessels which are believed to be packed with toxic materials.

Four so-called ghost ships have been sitting at anchor in Hartlepool for the past three years after being towed across the Atlantic for disposal.

But on Thursday, ignoring recommendations from planning officials that the scrap plans by British company Able UK be approved, Hartlepool city council voted to reject the proposal.

"We are not going to become the toxic waste dumping ground of Britain," Councillor Edna Wright told the meeting. Able UK has been forced to carry out extensive environmental assessments due to worries about potentially toxic material in the rusting vessels.

MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Steaua warm up for Champions League with 4-2 win

BUCHAREST, 14 Oct — Steaua Bucharest warmed up for next week's Champions League game with Real Madrid by beating CFR Cluj 4-2 on Friday.

The Romanian league match was played behind closed doors after Steaua received a one-match stadium ban following crowd trouble in last month's 1-0 derby defeat by Dinamo Bucharest.

Steaua fielded an experimental team with several players out injured and coach Cosmin Olaroiu keen to rest others ahead of the home game with Group E rivals Real on Tuesday.

Goals from Sorin Ghionea, Nicolae Dica and French striker Cyril Thereau put Steaua 3-0 up.

Substitute Florin Dan pulled one back for Cluj with a 25-metre strike.

Dica, the league's top scorer, took his goal tally for the season to nine when he converted a 75th-minute penalty before Dan grabbed his second goal of the game with five minutes left.—MNA/Reuters

Davydenko beats Mirnyi to reach Kremlin semis

Moscow, 14 Oct — Top seed Nikolay Davydenko will face veteran Frenchman Fabrice Santoro in the semifinals of the Kremlin Cup after both came through their matches in the Olympic Stadium on Friday.

Russian hopes suffered a blow in the women's draw, however, when US Open champion Maria Sharapova was forced to pull out of her quarterfinal with a foot injury.

Davydenko, chasing a place in the season-end-

Nacional overcome mumps to eliminate holders Boca

RIO DE JANEIRO, 14 Oct — Uruguay's Nacional overcame a outbreak of mumps in their team to knock defending champions Boca Juniors out of the Copa Sudamericana.

Boca, playing against 10 men for more than half the game, won Thursday night's second round second leg tie 2-1 to level the aggregate at 3-3 before Nacional won 3-1 on penalties in the Andean city of Salta.

Reserve goalkeeper Alexis Viera, playing because first choice Jorge Bava was one of the three players out with mumps, was Nacional's hero as he repeatedly frustrated Boca and saved shots from Juan Krupovicsa and Fernando Gago in the shootout.

Nacional went ahead after 15 minutes when Diego Perrone sneaked in

behind the Boca defence, latched on to Marcelo Tejera's pass and whipped the ball past Aldo Bobadilla. But the Uruguayans, whose request to

postpone the match was turned down by Boca, were on the ropes after defender Diego Godin was sent off in the 43rd minute for an over-top-tackle on Neri Cardozo.

minute, scoring after Viera's only mistake of the match when he failed to clear a corner, but Ricardo La Volpe's team could not find a third goal.

Nacional's quarterfinal opponents will be Atletico Paranaense, who became the only Brazilian team to reach the last eight by knocking out Argentina's River Plate in Thursday's other tie.—MNA/Reuters

China beats Palestine 2-0 to qualify for Asian Cup

AMMAN, 13 Oct — The Chinese men's football team defeat Palestine 2-0 in the 5th round Asian Cup qualifying match at the Jordanian King Abdullah Stadium in Amman, Jordan, on Wednesday, getting a place in next year's Asian Cup finals.

China took the lead in the 25th minute when Mao Jianqing prodding the ball past Palestinian goalkeeper. In the 65th minute, Sun Xiang doubled the lead. China join Iraq, who have already qualified, at the top of Group E on 10 points. — MNA/Xinhua



David Beckham, England manager Steve McClaren may recall him to represent England, his adviser Max Clifford disclosed on 12 Oct, 2006.—XINHUA

Argentine Press slams national team's defeat to Spain

BUENOS AIRES, 13 Oct — Argentina's sporting Press on Thursday condemned the national soccer team after its 2-1 loss to Spain.

"Little man's football" said Sporting daily Ole, who headlined its coverage with "Team of dwarves", referring to the height of key Argentine players Lionel Messi, Carlos Tevez, Federico Insua, Pablo Aimar, Javier Saviola and Sergio Aguero.

pretty small beer," morning paper Clarin complained. Daily paper La Nacion, said that the team lacked "stature", while Cronica said that the nation's players "projected a feeble image of Argentina on Spanish soil".

"The little guys were playing and the football (skills on show) were also

Spain won thanks to goals from Xavi and David Villa, while Daniel Bilos scored Argentina's only goal.—MNA/Xinhua

Arsenal trio to miss two games

LONDON, 13 Oct — Arsenal will be without Freddie Ljungberg, Emmanuel Ebou and Julio Baptista for their next two games, manager Arsene Wenger said on Thursday. The trio will miss Saturday's Premier League game against Watford and Tuesday's Champions League trip to Moscow to face CSKA.

Midfielder Ljungberg suffered a calf injury playing for Sweden against Iceland on Saturday. Defender Ebou hurt his knee while on international duty for Ivory Coast while Brazilian striker Baptista hurt his hamstring in training.—MNA/Reuters



A gymnast from the Denmark team performs on the floor during a practice session for the Gymnastics World Championships in Aarhus on 12 Oct, 2006.—INTERNET

Santos coach says team not hurt by Copa Americana loss

RIO DE JANEIRO, 13 Oct — Santos coach Vanderlei Luxemburgo said on Thursday that the Brazilian team's loss in the knockout phase of the Copa Sudamericana had not demoralized players.

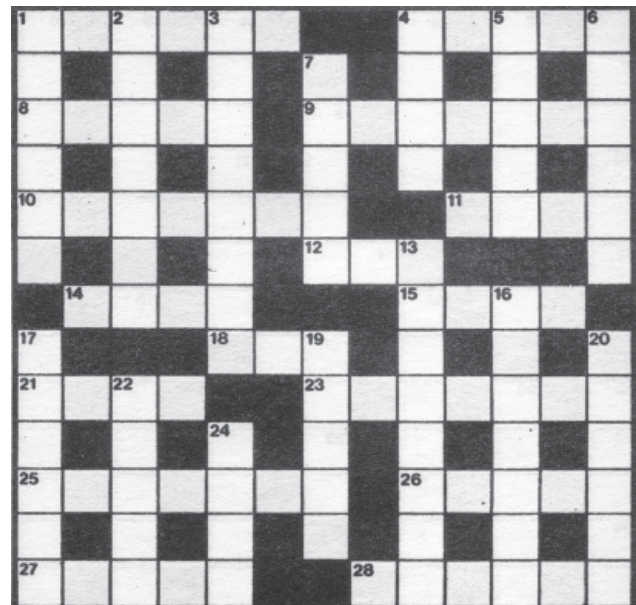
"It is sad, but this will not demoralize our team, which showed their warrior spirit. I liked their spirit," Luxemburgo said.

Santos beat Argentina's San Lorenzo 1-0 at home on Wednesday, but were still knocked out because they had lost 3-0 in the away leg of the tie.

Luxemburgo said that he could only field an under-strength squad in Wednesday's match.

"The Copa is super important, but we need to find a way to improve the playing calendar because it exhausts our players. We also need to review the player criteria... at the moment there is a maximum age of 25," he added.—MNA/Xinhua

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Respect
- 4 Ship's companies
- 8 Hand's shortest digit
- 9 Integrity
- 10 Reserve for a purpose
- 11 Network
- 12 Running bird
- 14 Joy, gaiety
- 15 Set in motion
- 18 Without liquid
- 21 Tax
- 23 A fruit
- 25 Falsehood
- 26 Telling 25
- 27 Beat strongly
- 28 Wisely

DOWN

- 1 Wartime dictator
- 2 Indifferent
- 3 Without prejudice
- 4 Conifer fruit
- 5 Follow
- 6 Mowing blade
- 7 Throttle
- 13 All brume (anag.)
- 16 Inoculation preparation
- 17 Move ostentatiously
- 19 Sailing boat
- 20 Too histrionic
- 22 Elector
- 24 Speechless

Congolese official beaten, stripped in London

LONDON, 14 Oct — British police on Friday were investigating an assault on a senior Congolese Government official, who said he was beaten with a baseball bat and stripped by a mob while on a trip to London.

Leonard She Okitundu, chief of staff to the President of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and other officials were attacked on Wednesday afternoon in northwest London, a Metropolitan Police spokesman said.

“There were a number of assaults... causing minor injuries to the officials,” the spokesman told *Reuters*.

Okitundu and Henri Nswana, a former Congolese ambassador to London, were taken to hospital for treatment, he

said. “No arrests (have been made) at this stage and inquiries are continuing,” the spokesman added.

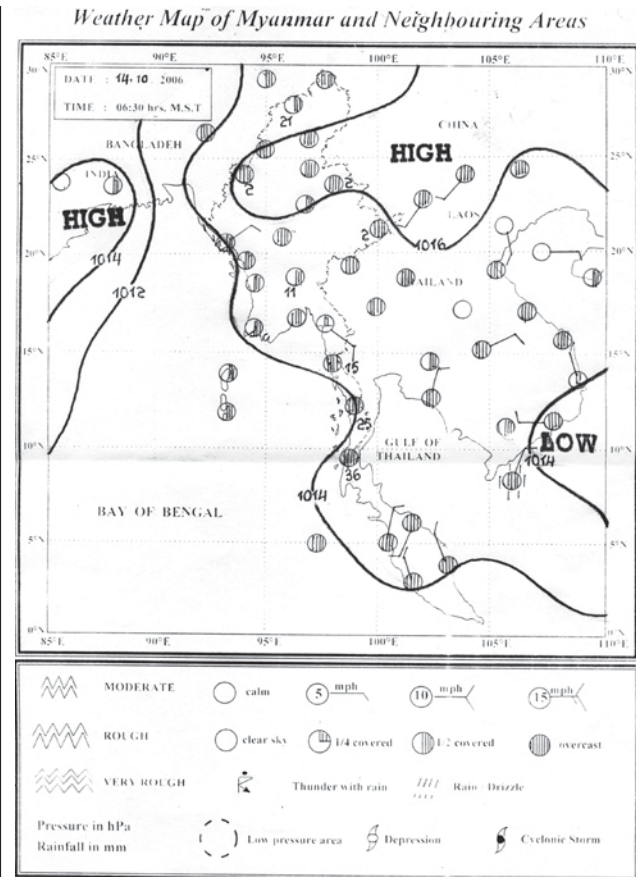
Okitundu told the *Guardian* newspaper he and two colleagues were attacked by opponents of

incumbent President Joseph Kabila as they arrived at a television station following a meeting at the Foreign Office.

“They pulled me out of the car to beat and kick me. They took my jacket and my trousers, my shirt and my pants. Then they dragged me and left me lying naked,” he said.

The gang of 20 stole his briefcase, containing his passport, money, credit cards and official papers, Okitundu said.

Pictures of his suit, Mont Blanc pen, business cards of members of Parliament (MPs) he had met and condoms that were in his pocket were later posted on the Internet, the *Guardian* reported, showing photographs of the images. — *MNA/Reuters*



WEATHER

Saturday, 14 October, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Chin State and Taninthayi Division, scattered in Shan State and upper Sagaing Division, isolated in Kachin and Mon States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthoung (1.42) inches, Mindat (1.26) inches and Myeik (0.99) inch. Maximum temperature on 13-10-2006 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 14-10-2006 was 75°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 14-10-2006 was (79%). Total sunshine hours on 13-10-2006 was (8.3) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 14-10-2006 were (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (98.31) inches at Mingaladon and (111.30) inches at Kaba-Aye and (115.83) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Northwest at (14:00) hours MST on 13-10-2006.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and generally fair in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 15-10-2006: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Division, fairly widespread in Shan State, scattered in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing Division and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 80%.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 15-10-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 15-10-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 15-10-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 12:30 hr MST on 14-10-2006)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Dokehtawady River at Myitnge is (1026) cm. It may remain above its danger level (870) cm during the next (72) hours commencing noon today.



Visitors touch a lifelike silicon sculpture hand at an international conference on intelligent robots and systems at the International Convention Center in Beijing on 13 Oct, 2006. — INTERNET



Sunday, 15 October
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -I've always love you
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music -Girl on film
- 8:50 am National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am Music -Altogether now
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Cultural images of Myanmar
- 9:20 am Music -Taking back my heart
- 1:30 pm News & Slogan
- 1:40pm Children's delight -Story for children "The old man and 500 monkeys" -Songs for children
- 9:00pm Weekly news review
- 9:10pm Article
- 9:20pm Music/latest hits/let's improve English through songs -Wherever you go -How could I let you go
- 9:45 pm News & Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL

TV Myanmar

Sunday, 15 October
View on today

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကုန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:55 am</p> <p>5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈)ဖြာ မင်္ဂလာ</p> <p>8:15 am</p> <p>6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>7. International news</p>	<p>8:45 am</p> <p>8. Say it in English</p> <p>11:00 am</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>11:10 am</p> <p>2. Musical programme</p> <p>11:25 am</p> <p>3. Round up of the week's international news</p> <p>11:35 am</p> <p>4. Yan Can Cook</p> <p>11:50 pm</p> <p>5. Myanmar movie: "ချစ်သူပိုင်းပိုင်းလည်" (ညွန့်ဝင်း၊ မောင်သန်းဝင်း၊ ဝါဝါဝင်းရွှေ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဝါဝါဝင်းရွှေ)</p> <p>2:20 pm</p> <p>6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ</p> <p>2:30 pm</p> <p>7. "အန္တရာယ်ဆိုတာ လက်တစ်ကမ်းမှာ" (နိုးသူ၊ နန်းကလျာလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-စောစန္ဒာလှိုင်)</p> <p>2:45 pm</p> <p>8. International news</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Songs to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. English for everyday use</p>	<p>4:45 pm</p> <p>4. အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ -တတိယနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)</p> <p>5:00 pm</p> <p>5. Dance of national races</p> <p>5:15 pm</p> <p>6. "သီးနှံစိုက်ပျိုး အထွက်တိုး" (စပါးပန်းတိုင် အထွက်နှုန်း တင်း(၁၀၀)ထွက်ရှိရန် ဆောင်ရွက်ရမည့် နည်းပညာများ)</p> <p>5:25 pm</p> <p>7. Sing and enjoy</p> <p>6:00 pm</p> <p>8. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>9. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm</p> <p>10. သီရိဂေဟာ</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>11. Discovery</p> <p>7:15 pm</p> <p>12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ဟောမန်ဆောင်းရဲ့ နေ့ရက်များ" (အပိုင်း-၁၆)</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>13. News</p> <p>14. International news</p> <p>15. Weather report</p> <p>16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "မေတ္တာပန်းတိုင်" (အပိုင်း-၂၈)</p> <p>17. The next day's programme</p>
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Bago Division puts 530,000 acres under monsoon paddy

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than meets service personnel, local people in Okpo Township

NAY PYI TAW, 14 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than yesterday morning arrived at Meenin creek bridge on the border between Yangon and Bago Divisions. He was welcomed there by Bago Division PDC Chairman Southern Command Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko, Vice-Chairman Col Sein Myint and officials.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party viewed thriving paddy plantations and shade trees and Yangon-Pyay Road by car. Next, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than met with departmental staff, members of social organizations and local people at Okpo Township PDC office. The township PDC chairman reported on administrative, economic and social affairs. In his instructions, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than said the cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy

has been on the increase year by year in Okpo township. It is heartening that Bago Division was able to cultivate more acreage of paddy exceeding the target of 3 million acres. The result comes out due to the cooperative efforts of the townships in the division. Bago Division is the fourth largest producer of monsoon paddy and the third largest producer of summer paddy in the country. This year the division needs to make efforts for the cultivation of 400,000

acres of summer paddy.

He said the State has set the goal of producing 1,500 million baskets of paddy to be able to feed the growing population of the country. Therefore, all are urged to try their utmost for extended cultivation of paddy. Moreover, efforts are to be made for targeted cultivation of the 10 major crops and service personnel are to provide necessary assistance to local farmers

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Service personnel need to make field trips right down to the grassroots in implementing the five rural development tasks.

The Chief Ministers should have the right to send their opinions and hold discussions on the bills passed by the Region or State Hluttaws

Suggestions of delegates concerning detailed basic principles for the chapter "Region or State Hluttaws" presented to NC Plenary Session

YANGON, 14 Oct — *The following is the presentation of the Panel of Chairmen on suggestions of delegates concerning detailed basic principles for the chapter "Region or State Hluttaws" to be included in writing the State Constitution made at the Plenary Session of the National Convention held on 11 October.*

Esteemed delegates,

At the Plenary Session of the National Convention held on 15 December 2005, the Chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee said, "I would like to present a collection of detailed basic principles that should be adopted for the legislative functions of the Region or State Hluttaws included in formulating a new constitution.

1. (a) **The day the term of Region or State Hluttaws comes into force is that of the Pyithu Hluttaw**
- (b) **The first regular session of Region or State Hluttaws shall be convened within 15 days after the commencement of the term of the Hluttaw**
2. (a) **The State Peace and Development Council shall convene the first regular session of**



U Kyaw Myo Win of Delegate Group of Workers presents suggestions of NC delegates. — MNA

- Region or State Hluttaws after the Constitution has come into force
- (b) **The Speaker of Region or State Hluttaws who continues to perform his duties in ac-**



U Hla Myint of Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia presents suggestions of NC delegates. — MNA

- cordance with the provisions of the Constitution shall convene the first regular session for the next term of Region or State Hluttaws
- (See page 6)