Established 1914

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Friday, 20 October, 2006

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Physic nut plants being cultivated in the nation as public movement to produce bio-diesel

Prime Minister on inspection tour of Sagaing Division, Kachin State

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Oct — Chairman of Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Prime Minister General Soe Win, during his recent tour of Myitkyina, Kachin State recently, accompanied by Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint, Chairman of Kachin State PDC Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, ministers, deputy ministers and departmental heads visited the Government Computer College in Myitkyina on 16 October.

First, Principal Dr Hnin Min Oo briefed the Prime Minister and party on subjects being conducted by the college, degrees to be offered, strength of faculty members and learning of students attending the college.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung gave

Prime
Minister
General
Soe Win
presents
offertories
to Sayadaw
of
Dhamma
Rakhita
Wuntho
Monastery
in
Myitkyina.
MNA





Prime Minister General Soe Win presents gifts to Naga national race elders in Shinbweyan.—MNA

supplementary reports about the facts of the college. After hearing the reports, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions.

Next, the Prime Minister and party looked into performance of students in the use of Internet. Afterwards, they visited Dhamma Rakkhita Wuntho Monastery and paid homage to State Ovadacariya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Sayadaw Bhaddanta Silavamsa and members of the Sangha and donated alms to them.

The next day, the Prime Minister and party oversaw rubber plantations, physic nut plantations, chilli, tanyin and mango nurseries. During the inspection, the Prime Minister was conducted round by the commander and responsible personnel.

Next, the Prime Minister and party arrived at Pahsaung, Nanyun, Sagaing Division. Afterwards, the Prime Minister cordially greeted those present and made observations on situation of the township and Naungyan Lake. Upon arrival at Pahsaung Township People's Hospital, the Prime Minister and party comforted the patients. At Panhsaung Basic Education High School, the students entertained the Prime Minister and party with songs.

(See page 8)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 20 October, 2006

Work in concert for socio-economic development

Kachin State is the northernmost part of Myanmar and rich in natural resources. In the past, due to the lack of peace and stability, it lagged behind other regions in development but today education, health and transport infrastructures of the state has remarkably developed.

The people in the state had to rely on only air transport to travel from Myitkyina to Putao. Now, goods can be transported from Myitkyina to Putao by lorry. As Bala Min Htin, Nammyitkha, Maliyan, Nansanyan, Mole, Tarpein, Tabatchaung and Namtee bridges have been built, transport has become better and easier and this contributes a lot to regional development.

For people to be healthy and able to live long, the government is carrying out public health care nationwide. Also in Kachin State, measures for prevention and cure of diseases are being taken on a wider scale in addition to building new hospitals and health care centres and upgrading the old ones.

The 25-bed Putao people's hospital was upgraded to a 50-bed facility in 1981 and then to a 100-bed district-level hospital in 1998. Now a new ward has been added to the hospital and it was opened on 16 October.

As the government has endowed hospitals and station hospitals in Putao, Machanbaw, Sumprabum, Nagmon and Khaunglanphu Townships, it will contribute much to public health care in the region.

The government is fulfilling all the requirements for improvement of social and economic life of the people including public health care. We believe that, if the people, on their part, work in unison and concert with the government, the living standard of the entire nation will become higher.

Myanmar Timber, Our Treasure Sustainable Forever



MYANMAR FURNITURE FAIR-2006

October 21-25, 2006 Tatamadaw Hall U Wisara Road, Yangon

People's Desire

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

Mines Minister receives Shweli Mayor

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Oct — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint received Shweli Mayor Mr Gong Nengzheng and party of Yunnan Province, the People's Republic of China, at his office, here, on 16 October. Present also were officials concerned of the ministry. — *MNA*

Sony DSLR & 100 Camera introduced

Yangon, 18 Oct — Jointly organized by Sony Electronics Asia Regional Marketing and TMW Enterpries Co Ltd, the introduction ceremony for Sony DSLR & 100 Camera was held at Traders Hotel this evening.

Managing Director U Wai Lwin of TMW Enterprise Co Ltd extended greetings. Next, Sony Electronics Asia Regional Marketing Manager M Pieter Fang explained facts on the Sony DSLR & 100 Camera and Master Trainer M Cascy Toe on functions of the camera.

Staff of Religious Affairs donate kathina robes

Yangon,18 Oct— Under the patronage of Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, staff of the ministry donated kathina robes to members of the Sangha at Indinetha monastery in Lewe Township this morning.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, directors-general, directors and staff of the ministry.

The minister and congregation received the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Dhammacariya Bhaddanta Uttamasara of Indinetha monastery. Next, Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, departmental officials offered kathina robes and provisions to members of the Sangha and shared merits gained. After the occasion, they offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha.— MNA

Later, a Myanmar photographer gave account of the camera from the photographic point of view and those present observed the cameras. Those wishing to buy it may contact No (173/175) Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township (Ph: 01- 250596/ 01-250597). — *MNA*



Leading Committee for Organizing 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Oct—The Leading Committee for Organizing the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held its regular work coordination meeting at the Auditorium of the Forest Research Department here this afternoon, attended by Secretary of the Leading Committee Col Yan Naing Oo and officials of the Work Committee and sub-committees

In his address, Secretary of the Leading Committee Col Yan Naing Oo said that the government holds the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions yearly with the aim of revitalizing the Myanma performing arts and this year is the 14th of its kind held in Nay Pyi Taw. And he called on managers of the participating teams from the states and divisions to present weaknesses and strengths found in the competitions. Next, members of the Work Committee and sub-committees and managers of the participating teams from the states and divisions dealt with the discussions and the Secretary of the Leading Committee attended to their needs. The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the Secretary of the Leading Committee. — *MNA*

Managing Director U Wai Lwin extends greetings at ceremony to introduce Sony DSLR & 100 Camera. — MNA

Water supply in Mawlamyine inspected

Yangon,19 Oct — Director-General of Development Affairs Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs U Myo Myint on 17 October inspected water supply tasks in Mawlamyine.

First, U Myo Myint inspected Attayan-2 Water Supply Station and Attayan-1 Water Supply Station in Mawlamyine. The two stations supply 2 million gallons of water to Mawlamyine a day.

During his tour, he also inspected paving of asphalt on a road in Mawlamyine at a cost of K 3,596,000. The road is 2,236 ft long and 12 ft wide

At the meeting with officials of Mawlamyine district and township development affairs departments, in Mawlamyine, Director-General U Myo Myint assisted in development tasks in Mawlamyine district and township and gave instructions.

MNA

CPCCC official says China to promote cooperation with India

Beijing, 18 Oct— China is ready to make active efforts to push for friendly cooperation with India, said a senior official with the Communist Party of China (CPC) on Tuesday.

Luo Gan, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, made the remarks in a meeting with a delegation from the Communist Party of India (Marxist) led by Sitaram Yechury.

"To develop friendly cooperation between China and India, the two largest developing na tions, accords with the fundamental interests of the two peoples, and will help the peace and development of Asia and the world at large," Luo said.

China and India in 2005 vowed to establish a strategic partnership towards peace and prosperity and this year

marks a year of Sino-Indian friendship.

Luo said China will further promote relations with India in line with the five principles of peaceful co-existence.

Speaking highly of the contribution of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) to the development of China-India relations, Luo said the CPC values its friendship with the party and will further increase exchanges between the two parties.

Yechury said India and China enjoy similar views on many major issues and have made fruitful cooperation in various fields. The Communist Party of India (Marxist) is ready to enhance exchanges with the CPC, in an effort to push for the development of India-China ties, Yechury noted.

MNA/Xinhua





South Korean protesters shout slogans during an anti-US rally in Seoul, on 19 Oct, 2006.

Chinese President Hu Jintao (1st R) meets with Japan's House of Councillors President Chikage Ogi in Beijing, China, on 17 *Oct*, 2006.—Internet

Internet Iraq attacks kill 10 US soldiers

BAGHDAD, 18 Oct— The United States military in Iraq says a Marine and nine soldiers have been killed in Iraq, including four in a roadside bombing near Baghdad.

The blast struck the soldiers' vehicle as they travelled west of the capital.

Three more were killed in the restive Diyala Province, north of Baghdad. The three others died in separate attacks. The deaths come as US-led forces in Iraq experience a surge in casualties in insurgency attacks; more than 60 US troops have been killed this month.

The BBC's Andrew North in Baghdad says that, with an average of three Americans dying

every day, this is one of the highest casualty rates sustained by US troops since January

The US military gave no further details about the deaths in Diyala, apart from saying they occurred during operations in the province. All the fatalities happened on Tuesday. The US military usually announces deaths the following day.

One soldier died in northern Baghdad when his patrol was attacked with small-arms fire. Another was killed when his patrol was hit by a roadside bomb.

In western Anbar province, a marine died from his wounds after coming under fire, the military said.—Internet

Diamonds are icing on \$20m wedding cake

Los Angeles, 18 Oct— A confection billed as the most expensive wedding cake in the world makes its debut on Monday night in Beverly Hills, but is likely to cause indigestion.

The extravagant \$20 million diamond-studded wedding cake, created by Mimi So Jewellers and cake designer Nahid La Patisserie Artistique, is the star attraction of the Luxury Brands Bridal Show and will be unveiled on exclusive Rodeo Drive.

"Where else would you debut a \$20 million wedding cake but on Rodeo Drive?" said show organizer Ilona Sherman. The cake is protected by a team of uniformed security guards at all times, she said. And there's no way it will ever be eaten.—MNA/Reuters



A confection, billed as the most expensive wedding cake in the world, valued at \$20 million, is shown in this undated handout photo. Internet

Kidnapped reporter in Afghanistan says he is OK

KABUL, 18 Oct— Kidnapped Italian journalist Gabriele Torsello says he is fine and being moved around by his abductors, a website reported on Tuesday.

PeaceReporter, which specializes in reports from conflicts, said Torsello had contacted a hospital run by Italian aid agency Emergency in Lashkar-Gah, capital of strife-racked Helmand Province in the south. Torsello spoke to the hospital's security adviser late on Monday night to say that he was alright and that his kidnappers had just moved him from one place to another.

One of the kidnappers also told the adviser they would make contact again soon, PeaceReporter said.

Torsello, a Londonbased photojournalist who is a Muslim, had met staff at the hospital before leaving for Kandahar City, capital of neighbouring Kandahar Province, by bus last week.

He was kidnapped by five gunmen on Thursday after he left by bus from Lashkar-Gah. Torsello was in the area — a Taleban stronghold and the centre of opium trade in the world's main supplier of that commodity — to report on the deaths of civilians and destruction of hospitals and homes by NATO forces in operations against the Taleban.—*MNA/Reuters*

Eleven-millennium-old building discovered in Syria

Damascus, 18 Oct-Archaeologists have unearthed an 11-millennium-old building on the banks of the Euphrates River in northern Syria, the official SANA news agency reported on Tuesday.

The building, which

dates back to 8,700 BC, "may represent the oldest ritual practices related to the holy ox", said Dr Yousef Kanjo from the Archaeological Department of Aleppo, in northern Syria.

The ancient building,

shaped like a wild ox skull, consists of a rectangular forepart with geometrical drawings in red, black and white colours, said the report, quoting a statement by the Aleppo Archaeological Department.

MNA/Xinhua

Hu visits exhibition marking 70th anniversary of Long March

Beijing, 18 Oct— The spirit of the Long March is a possession of the Chinese people which should be carried forward in building a modern and harmonious socialist country, said Chinese President Hu Jintao on Monday.

Hu made the remarks while visiting an exhibition marking the 70th anniversary of the Long March, which debuts at the Military Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution on Monday.

The exhibition shows

more than 580 pictures, 440 pieces of cultural relics, 180 publications, 25 art works, 52 graphs and three large-scale scenes, revealing the spirit of the Red Army in the Long March.

The exhibition is a live textbook of revolution history for the cadres and the people, especially the youngsters, said Hu.

The Long March was a famous military manoeuvre carried out by the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army from 1934 to 1936 led by the Communist Party of China (CPC) to combat the Kuomintang Regime.

Though many soldiers died on the way, the Red Army finally arrived at Yan'an in western Shaanxi Province after the 25,000-li (12,500-kilometre) trek, where the new headquarters of CPC was later established.

Other top officials who paid visit to the exhibition on Monday included Wu Bangguo, Wen Jiabao, Zeng Qinghong, Huang Ju, Wu Guanzheng, Li Changchun and Luo

MNA/Xinhua

စက်မှုစွမ်းအား ခေတ်ကျော်လွှား



Construction workers are seen at Beijing's central business district on 19 Oct, 2006. China's annual growth in the first nine months slowed a bit to 10.7 percent, but the world's fourth-largest economy is still on course to enjoy the fourth consecutive year of 10 percent growth.—Internet

FAO honours four Asian model farmers

BANGKOK, 18 Oct— The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on Tuesday honoured model farmers from four Asian countries for their outstanding achievements in their respective farming fields.

Thai Princess Sirindhorn presented the FAO awards at FAO's regional office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok to four Asian model farmers — Phloiruedee Pitiworawong from Thailand, Wang Haiyan from China, U Moe Win from Myanmar and Rashid Hussain from Pakistan, the fields of agriculture, livestock, industrial crops production and seed farming respectively.

According to the FAO, the farmers were honoured for their outstanding achievement and for providing that investments in agriculture and pay off, although even more can be accomp-

country's 9.6 per cent

growth rate and large

lished if the right policies are in place to address the problems faced by small farmers. — MNA/Xinhua

Cali, a short-haired Manx from Trenton, New Jersey, was crowned Best in Show at the 2006 CFA-Iams Cat Championships at Madison Square Garden in New York on 15 Oct, 2006.—INTERNET



Acrobats perform during the closing performance of the 6th Nanjing Culture & Art Festival in Nanjing, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 18 Oct, 2006. —Internet

Brazil presidential candidates look to China's economic model

Brasilia, 18 Oct — Brazil's presidential candidates said on Monday that they were greatly interested in some aspects of China's economic development

model, especially the

foreign direct investment. Brazil, by contrast, averaged 2.3 per cent growth during the 1995 to 2002 presidency of Fernando Henrique Cardoso, and has averaged

2.7 per cent since then.

Luis Inacio da Silva, Workers Party candidate and incumbent President, said that he would take from the Chinese model "the emphasis on investment growth and export growth, because this is the way to rapid and sustainable growth."

MNA/Xinhua

Rocket hits Afghan house: '13 die'

KABUL, 18 Oct—NATO airstrikes in southern Afghanistan's Kandahar province killed nine civilians and wounded 11 others on Wednesday, the provincial governor said, while a firefight in neighbouring Helmand province killed 13 civilians, a resident said.

Kandahar Gov Asadullah Khalid said the strike in Zhari district, about 25 kilometres (15 miles) west of Kandahar, hit three homes. He said an unknown number of Taliban militants were also killed.

NATO's International Security Assistance Force said an operation in Kandahar province was believed to have caused "several" civilian casualties.

The alliance said the operation was meant to detain people involved in roadside bomb attacks in Panjwayi district, which borders Zhari. NATO said it regretted any civilian casualties and that it makes "every effort" to minimize the risk of collateral damage during operations.

Also on Wednesday, a rocket hit a house during a nighttime clash between suspected Taliban insurgents and NATO and Afghan security forces in Helmand province's Grishk district, 220 kilometres (135 miles) west of Kandahar city, police said. A resident said 13 villagers, including women and children, died.

Internet



A worker loads alligators onto a truck during an evacuation of reptiles to higher ground to prevent them from escaping from a farm threatened by floodwaters in Uthai Thani Province, about 219 km (136 miles) north of Bangkok, on 18 Oct, 2006.—Internet



England captain Andrew Flintoff adjusts a cricket bowling machine during a net practice session in Jaipur, India on 17 Oct, 2006. England will play against Australia on 21 Oct in the ICC Champions Trophy.—Internet

Indonesia's noodle giant Indofood to enter biofuel business

JAKARTA, 18 Oct— Indonesia's biggest instant noodle maker Indofood plans to enter biodiesel industry and, as part of the venture, to acquire 60-per-cent stake worth around 13.6 million US dollars in three oilpalm plantation firms.

"It's our long-term objective to become one of the players in the biodiesel industry," PT Indofood Sukses president Makmur Thomas Tjhie was quoted Tuesday by English newspaper The Jakarta Post as saying.

"In order to achieve this objective, we need to have more plantation land under oil palms," he said. The company intended to

holdings from the current 138,000 hectares to 250,000 by 2015, giving rise to a production capacity of one million tons of crude palm oil per

Thomas said that his

|company had already obtained a permit from the government to produce biodiesel based upon a production of 225,000 tons of crude palm oil (CPO) per year.

MNA/Xinhua



Indonesia's oil production to reach 1.05 m bpd

JAKARTA, 17 Oct— The resumption of the Belanak oil field will help lift Indonesia's oil production by 30,000 barrels per day (bpd) to reach 1.05 million bpd, an official said here Monday.

Operated by Conoco Phillips, the Belanak field on Natuna Island will resume production late this month after a mechanical faulty is repaired, said Kardaya Warnika, head of the Indonesian oil and gas executive body (BP Migas).

Meanwhile, Minister of Energy and Mineral Purnomo Resources

China's Yang Wei competes on the ring during the men's team final at the 39th Artistic Gymnastics World Championships in Aarhus, Denmark, on 17 Oct, 2006. Team China won the gold medal followed by Russian silver and Japanese bronze. Internet

Yusgiantoro said the call from the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) for its members to cut production would

affect Indonesia.

Over the last few years, Indonesia has even failed to meet OPEC's quota production of 1.4 million bpd. — MNA/Xinhua

HK to launch water management programme

Hong Kong, 17 Oct—Hong Kong will implement a water management programme to protect water resources and explore new sources, the Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works Mak Chai-kwong said on Sunday.

Mak said that measures currently being carried out under the programme included management and protection of water gathering grounds; the pilot desalination plant study; the pilot scheme on the use of reclaimed water; and public education and promotional activities to encourage members of the public to conserve water and protect water resources.

Officiating at the 2006 World Water Monitoring Ceremony, Mak said that the ceremony helped convey a very important message "We need to join hands to protect the precious water resources. Without water there will be no life. Our community cannot develop in a sustainable manner without clean drinking water.'

MNA/Xinhua

Ten people killed in car bomb in South of Baghdad

Baghdad, 17 Oct—Ten people were killed and 15 others wounded when a car bomb went off in the town of Suwaiyra in south of Baghdad on Monday, a well-informed Interior Ministry source told Xinhua. "A car bomb parking near the branch of the state-owned al-Rasheed Bank in the Suwaiyra town, some 60

2006. At least 13 people were killed in the

kilometre south of Baghdad," the source said on condition anonymity. The attack killed 10 people and wounding 15 others, including policemen, and damaged several cars and nearby buildings, the source said. Earlier, the police said that three Iraqis were killed and seven others. including policemen, wounded in two bomb attacks targeted an Iraqi bank and police

forces in Baghdad.

MNA/Xinhua



Beijing, 17 Oct— China's national drug watchdog has revoked Anhui Huayuan Worldbest Biology Pharmacy | production license for Co's production licence for injections dismissed the company's top management.

The manufacture of "Xinfu" drugs, which allegedly caused six deaths in the country in July, is banned, spokesman Zhang Jixiang with the State Food and Drug Administration said here on Monday.

He said that the "Xinfu" antibiotic injection was of

company's Good Manufacturing Practice Certificate and its "Xinfu" drugs have been revoked. The Anhui Provincial Food and Drug Bureau will supervise the destruction of all the recalled drugs. The bureau will seize illegal company funds and impose a fine in line with China's Drug Management Law, Zhang

Five management staff including general manager Qiu Zuyi, executive deputy general manager

inferior quality. The | Zhou Cang, deputy general manager Pan Wei, Plant II director Yuan Haiyuan and quality supervisor Cui Tongxin were dismissed for their responsibility in respect to suspect killer antibiotic.

Another five people including legal representative Sun Ying, production director Liu Jiansong, Plant II vice directors Jia Yibo and Wang Dianlin and technician Chen Ping each were given a "serious demerit", Zhang said.—MNA/Xinhua



Vesantara Drama Contest in progress



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence enjoys Vesantara Drama Contest. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct — The Vesantara Drama Contest of the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the fourth day at the hall of University of Veterinary Science, here, this evening.

Pantaya Wai Yan Oo and troupe representing Mandalay Division participated in the contest.

Among the audience were member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Competitions Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin and wife, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and wife, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Science and

Technology U Kyaw Soe, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Aung Kyi, departmental heads, Secretary of the Leading Committee Col Yan Naing Oo of Nay Pyi Taw Command and officials.

Kyaw Soe Min and troupe representing Magway Division will take part in the contest tomorrow.— MNA

Let's get together and write

For the future...

For Myanmar system to appear anew Must go through proper pooling And remove any impediments with combined strength

And as we assert our strength manifold. For subjugation...

Neo-colonialists are trying to push into mire Concocting and gossiping

Adding lies and attempting to drive wedges
To bring disunity

They're trying forever.

On the other hand...

Not seeing eye to eye, thief shouting stop thief

Not loving our kind, dirty slave, devil And axe-handles trying to destroy our race Hankering for power, seeing nation's turmoil destruction

To see danger boil

Making and enemies and disturbing.

Wherefore...

T'will only suffice if there's mindfulness and awareness

If awareness is not absent, and if mind's clear

If there's always faithfulness and discipline Move forward desired goal

Following correct path, removing enemies Relying on our strength within

Will be the norms for next generation to talk of

With equal new mind, taking our path The history of our land

Let's brethren all

Get together in unison and write.

Yan Gyi Aung (Trs)

(Hailing the National Convention in progress)

14th Myanmar Traditional ...

(from page 16)

the Competitions Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin and wife, the deputy ministers, senior military officers and their wives, departmental heads, service personnel, families members of local battalions and guests.

Altogether nine contestants from States and Divisions took part in the higher education level men's Maha Gita singing contest, 14 in the basic education level aged (5-10) girls' Maha Gita singing contest, eight in amateur level (first class) women's modern song singing contest and 13 in the basic education level aged (5-10) boys' modern song singing contest. It were supervised by the chairperson, secretary and members of the Panel of the Judges for Singing Contest.

Altogether eight contestants from States and Divisions participated in the amateur level (first class) men's dancing contest and 12 in the amateur level (second class) women's dancing contest.

It was supervised by the chairperson, secretary and members of the Panel of the Judges for Dancing Contest.



A contestant participates in higher education level boys' classical song contest. — MNA



A contestant participates in amateur level girls' dancing contest. — MNA

Altogether four teams took part in the higher education level men's ozi contest and six teams in the basic education level aged (15-20) men's ozi contest. It was supervised by leader of the Panel of the Judges for ozi contest and members.

At the piano contest, six contestants participated in the amateur level (first class) men's and 10 in the basic education level aged (10-15) girls' piano contests. It were supervised by the chairman and members of the Panel of the Judges for Music Contest.

Altogether eight contestants competed in the basic education level aged (5-10) boys' solo Myanmar orchestra contest. It was supervised by the chairman and members of the Panel of the Judges for Music Contest.

At the violin contest, seven persons participated in the amateur level (first class) men's violin contest, five in basic education level aged (10-15) and two in aged (5-10) girls' violin contests. It were supervised by the leader of the music group and members.

The 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continue tomorrow.

MNA

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than attends Kathina robes offering ceremony at Kyakhatwaing Monastery

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Bago Division PDC Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko, attended the 57th Kathina robes offering ceremony at Kyakhatwaing Pariyatti Monastery in Bago on 15 October morning.

Also present on the occasion were State Ovadaçariya Joint Sangharaja of Shwegyin Gana Presiding Nayaka the Monastery

Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Jotipala and over 1,000 members of the Sangha, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, senior military officers, local authorities and wellwishers.

First, the Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw gave an Ovadakatha and administered the Five Pre-

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than offered Kathina robes to the Sayadaw. Next, the commander and the minister also donated Kathina robes to the Sayadaw. The Sayadaw delivered a sermon and Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party shared merits gained.

At Utthathiri Monastery in Nandawya Ward, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party paid homage to Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Vimala. They offered Kathina robes and alms to the Sayadaw.

Next, Lt-Gen Khin



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than offers Kathina robes to Sayadaw of Kyakhatwaing Monastery in Bago. — MNA



Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than hears report on upgrading of Yangon-Mandalay Highway by an official of Dagon International Co Ltd. — MNA

US making attempts to harm peace and stability and impede development of Myanmar Mone Him/Mone Ha Group condemns the acts of the US

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Oct—The Mone Him/Mone Ha People's Militia Group on 7 October issuced the declaration on its stance over the decision to put Myanmar on the agenda of the United Nations Security Council.

The following is the full text of the declara-

Declaration No 1/2006 of Mone Him/Mone Ha People's Militia Group over the decision to put Myanmar on the agenda of the Uinted Nations **Security Council**

- The US has been making attempts to harm peace and stability and impede development of Myanmar, employing internal and exernal elements axe-handles relying on foreign nations. Again, owing to the submission of the US permanent representative to the United Nations a decision was made to put Myanmar on the agenda of the UNSC.
- Such interference in Myanmar's internal affairs perpetrated by the US using the UN is an act to impede peace and stability already achieved and development of Myanmar and to harm national solidarity and progress of transition to discipline-

flourishing democracy.

- At present, the government is making all-out efforts for prevalence of law and order and economic development and for inculcating the people with higher knowledge that are prerequisites for the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, and remarkable progress has been made in this regard. And there is no reason for Myanmar to pose a threat to regional stability as firm foundations for a future democratic nation have been laid down in the nation.
- As such US interference in Myanmar's internal affairs with the intention of harming peace and stability of the State and of impeding measures for satisfying food, clothing and shelter needs of the people is contrary to basic principles of the UN Charter, the people's militia group declared that it protests and condemns the acts of the US.

U Law Mar Chairman Mone Ha People's Militia Group

Maung Than and party inspected maintenance of Bago-Nyaunglebin section of Yangon-Mandalay Highway being undertaken by Shwe Thanlwin Highway Co and thriving monsoon paddy planta-

At the construction camps, they heard reports on construction tasks of Hi-Star Co Ltd on Nyaunglebin-Zeyawady section of Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway and Kanbawza Pathfinder Industries Co Ltd on Zeyawady-Yedashe section.

Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party inspected sanitation and beautifying of Toungoo, development tasks and upgrading of roads. He heard reports on construction tasks of Dagon International Co Ltd on Yedashe-Pyinmana road section and attended to the needs. Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and party arrived back here in the evening. — MNA

MWAF raises awareness of human trafficking, **HIV/AIDS** in Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct — Working Group for Protection and Rehabilitation under Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation organized the educative talks on health and human trafficking at a village in Pyinmana Township yesterday.

First, Leader of the Working Group for Protection and Rehabilitation Daw Tin Tin Nwe briefed on MWAF and gave talks on the importance of eating nutritious food.

Inspector of Police Htay Htay Tun of the Committee for Prevention against Human Trafficking gave talks on human trafficking; Leader of Working Group for Rehabilitation and Reintegration Daw Kyi Kyi Mya on tasks of the group and Dr Daw Kyaw Thar Sein on awareness of HIV/AIDS. — MNA

Physic nut plants being cultivated ...

(from page 1) And the Prime Minister and party inspected e-Education Learning Centre, classrooms and learning of students in their studies. Next, they looked into self-reliant market and Information and Public Relations Department.

In a meeting with departmental heads, members of social organizations and townselders, township officer of General Administration Department U Myo Win briefed the Prime Minister and party on situation of Pansawng township, peaceful living of Naga, Lisu and Bamar national races, regional peace and stability, prevalence of law and order, land utilihave to be fulfilled to departmental heads, members of social organization and local people from Pahsaung, said the Prime Minister.

As the departmental heads, members of social organizations and local people are residing at border areas, they are to live in harmony.

They are to make all-out efforts for the regional development. Pansawng is a region with excellent potential for development based on trade. Basic requirements such as regional consolidation, prevalence of law and order and strengthening of administration are to be provided. Arrangements are to be made for buildChairman of Nanyun Township PDC Captain Aye Lwin. Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw and Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint gave supplementary reports.

After hearing the reports, the Prime Minister said that they have toured Khaunglanphu, Pannandin, Nagmon, Dawphoneyan and Hsinbo in Kachin State and provided necessary assistance for development of the regions and for ensuring uplift of living standard of the local national races. Furthermore, he said that they have fulfilled the requirements of Pansawng, a border town of Nanyun Township in Sagaing Division.



Prime Minister General Soe Win presents gifts to trainees of Vocational Training School in Nanyun. — MNA

oped nation.

Next, the General presented gifts to Naga national races and medicines for the Township Hospital and cash assistance for social organizations to officials.

Member Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw gave uniforms to USDA members.

At Shinbweyan of Tanai Township, the Prime Minister viewed progress of the town. At the hall, the General met

gifts to Shinbweyan through officials.

Next, the Prime Minister and party inspected construction of a building at Shinbweyan Basic Education Middle School.

At Hukaung Hall in Tanai, Chairman of the Township PDC U Hlwan Moe Han and officials reported to the Prime Minister on requirements of the township.

reports, the General fulfilled the requirements. The Prime Minister handed over gifts for Tanai Township to Local Station Commander Brig-Gen Khin Maung Aye.

On arrival at the site of Yuzana Agricultural Project in Nanphyat region of Tanai Township, Chairman of Yuzana Co Ltd U Htay Myint reported to the Prime Minister that the company is implementing the project for cultivation of sugarcane, cassava and other crops on vacant and virgin lands of the township. The plan (See page 9)

After hearing the

Prime Minister General Soe Win meeting with departmental officials at Hukaung Hall in Tanai. — MNA

zation and education and | ing of roads in this region, health care.

Next, station commander Brig-Gen Khin Maung Aye and Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt presented reports on arrangements made for the development of the township and future tasks while Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint gave supplementary reports.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister gave instructions on renovation of Pahsaung Township Hospital (16-bed), health staff to be appointed, use of hospital equipment, renovation of school and classrooms and systematic surveys for supply of hydel electric power. Pansawng is known for difficult of transport and so the requirements will | the township presented by

said the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister presented gifts for Panhsaung and cash assistance for social organizations to officials.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the commander, the ministers and officials gave gifts to officials.

At 2 pm, the Prime Minister and party inspected Nanyun Township Hospital.

At Women's Vocational Training School, the Prime Minister inspected practical tasks of the trainees and presented gifts to teachers.

After inspecting the Nanyun Market, the Prime Minister met with department personnel, members of the social organizations and local people at Bandoola Hall. He heard reports on development of

He added that the Government had laid down and is implementing the plans for sectorwise development of all regions of the nation including border regions. Better linkage of communications will contribute much to development of the region. The regions will enjoy fruitful results of trade in the border areas. As entrepreneurs have arrived there to reclaim vacant lands in Tanai Plain, remarkable progress of production will be made in the region. The Government will render assistance not only for benefiting the State and the people but also for ensuring development of each region. Therefore, the people and social organizations are to harmoniously take part in the drive for emergence of a modern and devel-

The commander gave gifts to Township WAO and Township MCWA.

Ministers Col Thein Nyunt, U Thaung, Maj-Gen Thein Swe and Maj-Gen Soe Naing also presented gifts and books to officials.

USDA Secretariat

with departmental personnel, members of social organizations and local people and explained regional development.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister presented gifts to Naga national races.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party also presented



Prime Minister General Soe Win views students learning at Government Computer College in Myitkyina. — MNA

Physic nut plants being...

(from page 8) is under way to reclaim 200,000 acres of vacant and fallow lands along both sides of Myitkyina-Tanai Road in Tanai Township. Ethanol Factory, Sugar Mill and Tapioca Factory will be established phase by phase to produce finished goods from sugarcane and cassava. Now, land preparations have been made there since mid-September 2006.

Next, Prime Minister General Soe Win gave

instructions, saying that the various items of fuel such as oil and coal cannot be refilled after utilizing them. Therefore, all global countries are seeking ways and means to use new fuel items that can substitute the conventional fuels. Especially, the countries use bio-fuel based on agricultural crops. These fuels can be extracted from corn, sugarcane, soya-bean, sunflower, physic nut and mustard. Physic nut plants are being grown as the is necessary to organize

public movement to produce bio-diesel Myanmar. Yuzana Co is implementing the multiagricultural project for production of gasohol. Therefore, it is one of the important projects for the State.

He said that Kachin State is rich in land and water resources. Hence, entrepreneurs are invited to carry out agriculture and livestock breeding in the state. He stressed the need to render necessary assistance to the project of Yuzana Co. In addition, it



Prime Minister General Soe Win presents gifts to Naga national races from Nanyun.—MNA

other entrepreneurs to invest in production indus-

Afterwards, the Prime Minister and party inspected vehicles and project. — MNA

heavy machinery and preliminary tasks of the

Lt-Gen Myint Swe visits tax free markets



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence inspects tax free market in Yankin Township.—MNA

Yangon, 19 Oct — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win and officials, inspected tax free markets in Yangon Division this morning.

First, Lt-Gen Myint Swe visited the tax free market at the corner of Yazadirit Street and Pyidaungsu Street in Ward 38, Dagon Myothit (North) Township. He was wel comed there by the commander, Joint Secretary of Yangon City Development Committee U Aung Than Win and officials.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party visited tax free markets in Dagon Myothit (North), in Dagon Myothit (South), on Kyaikkasan Street in Tamway Township and Kaba Aye Pagoda Road in Yankin Township and inspected consumers good

shops of the Ministry of Industry-1 and the Ministry of Energy, fish and meat shops and vegetable shops of district and township PDCs, units and regiments under Yangon Command, Myanmar Police Force, township and ward Union Solidarity and Development Associations, Yangon Division Vegetable Cultivation and Poultry and Fish Farming Special Zone, private growers, shops of dairy products, fish and meat and eggs of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, YCDC and edible oil shops of Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers Association and groceries of cooperative societies and other shops.

On his inspection tour of the tax free markets, Lt-Gen Myint Swe stressed the need for selling of goods at fair prices for the convenient of the consumers and cordially greeted the shoppers.

MNA

USDA Secretary-General meets Vietnamese delegation

YANGON, 19 Oct — Secretary-General U Htay Oo of Union Solidarity and Development Association received a Vietnamese delegation led by Head of International Communications Centre for South East Asia, South Asia and the Pacific Region Mr Nguyen Hoanh Son of International Relations Department of Vietnam Communist Party at the headquarters of USDA in Bahan Township this morning.

Present also were CEC member U Aung Thein Lin, Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Tran Van Tung and officials.

At the meeting, the secretary-general explained the objectives, duties and responsibilities and structure of USDA, measures being taken by the Government in cooperation with the people for the development of the State and progress of the nation.

He continued to say that nowadays, the country has enjoyed unprecedented peace and stability and development. But turning a blind eye to the objective conditions some destructive elements are levelling accusations that the country lacks peace and stability and development. So, the association totally denounces such acts to put Myanmar on UNSC agenda. The association is working in cooperation with the people to preserve already-achieved favourable conditions of peace and development. Moreover, it will actively participate in the successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map of the State including the National Convention.

The Vietnamese ambassador said he believed that the cooperation between the two countries will be further strengthened based on cordial relations.

Next, the leader of the delegation explained facts about Vietnam Communist Party, measures being taken for ensuring peace and development of the country under the leadership of the Party, strengthening amity and friendship with the world community including ASEAN and neighbouring countries. Later, he stressed the need to enhance the cooperation between the two governments as well as betwteen the organizations and the peoples.

Later, Secretary-General U Htay Oo and the leader of the delegation exchanged gifts and posed for a documentary photo. — MNA

USDA Secretary-General U Htay Oo meeting with Vietnamese goodwill delegation led by Mr Nguyen Hoanh Son.—MNA



Delegate groups of National Convention...

(from page 16)

Next, the Alternate Chairman sought the approval of the delegates for the proposal paper of the Delegate Group of National Races to submit to National Convention Convening Work Committee and approved the proposal paper. The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the alternate chairman. Delegate Group of Peasants

Delegate Group of Peasants held its group meeting at the Hall No 4 this morning. UTin Maung Kyaw of Magway Division presided over the meeting together with members of the Panel of Chairmen U Kyi Tint of Ayeyawady Division and U Mya Aye of Yangon greetings.

Next, Members of Panel of Chairmen U Mya Aye of Yangon Division and U Kyi Tint of Ayeyawady Division read out the proposal paper of the Delegate Group of Peasants concerning the clarification of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman concerning separate suggestions to seek the approvals of the delegate groups, and these suggestions were submitted by the delegate groups to lay down detailed basic principles for the functions on legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the writing of

Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia

Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia held its group meeting at the Hall No 6 this morning. Dr U Thein Oo Po Saw, Chairman of Myanmar Academy Technology Science presided over the meeting together with members of the Panel of Chairmen Film Director U Khin Zaw and Director-General of Medical Science Department U Maung Maung Wint. Deputy Director U Than Win of Work Group-8 of the National Convention Convening Work Committee and Assiatant Director U Nyein Myint acted as MCs.

First, the MC declared the start of the group

NCCMC Chairman encourages NC delegates at hospitals



Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung gives cash assistance to National Convention Delegate U Sai Ohn Myint at 1000-bed Defence Services

General Hospital No 1. — MNA

YANGON, 19 Oct — Chairman of National Convention Convening Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and party yesterday morning comforted NC delegates receiving treatment and handed over cash assistance provided by the National Convention Convening Commission to them. At Defence Services Orthopaedic Hospital (500bed) in Mingaladon Township, NCCMC Chairman Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and party asked after NC delegate U Thaung Tun of Delegate Group of

Peasants and presented cash assistance provided by the NCCC to them.

They proceeded to No 1 Defence Services General Hospital (1000-bed) in Mingaladon. They comforted delegates U Yaw Aye Hla of Delegate Group of Representatives-elect and delegate U Sai Ohn Myint of Delegate Group of National Races receiving treatment. Maj-Gen Lun Maung gave cash assistance delegates to NCCC. — MNA

အခွဲ သားညီလာခံ _{တောင်သူလယ်သ}ာကိုယ်စားလှယ်မ



Alternate Chairman U Kyaw Din of Delegate Group of National Races addresses group meeting of delegates of National Races. — MNA

Division. Deputy Director U Nay Win of Work Group-6 of the National Convention Convening Work Committee and Assiatant Director Daw Myint Sein acted as MCs.

First, the MC declared the start of the group meeting as 92 out of 93 delegates were in attendances, accounting for 98.92 per cent.

Alternate Chairman of the Meeting U Tin Maung Kyaw extended

the State Constitution, the chapter on the citizens and fundamental rights and duties of the citizens and the role of the Tatmadaw.

Next, the Alternate Chairman sought the approval of the delegates for the proposal paper of the Delegate Group of Peasants to submit to National Convention Convening Work Committee and approved the proposal paper. The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the alternate chairman.



Alternate Chairman U Tin Maung Kyaw of Magway Division addresses group meeting of delegates
of peasants. — MNA

meeting as 54 out of 56 delegates were in attendances, accounting for 96.43 per cent. Alternate Chair-

man of the Meeting Dr U Thein Oo Po Saw extended greetings.

Next, Daw Khin Mi

ဒီပညာရှင်၊အတတ် စားလှယ်များ အ

Dr U Thein Oo Po Saw, Chairman of Myanmar Academy Technology Science, addresses group meeting of delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia. — MNA

Mi Tun of University of Medicine-1 (Yangon) read out the proposal of the Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia concerning the clarification of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman on separate suggestions to seek the approvals of the delegate groups, and these suggestions were submitted by the delegate groups to lay down detailed basic principles for the functions legislation Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or

State Hluttaw to be included in the writing of the State Constitution, the chapter on the citizens and fundamental rights and duties of the citizens and the role of the Tatmadaw.

Next, the Alternate Chairman sought the approval of the delegates for the proposal paper of the Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia to submit to National Convention Convening Work Committee and approved the proposal paper. The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the alternate chairman. — *MNA*

Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspects roads and bridges in Taninthayi Division

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein and officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office and departments, left Bokpyin for Pyigyi Mandaing on 14 October.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party met departmental officials, members of social organizations and townselders at Township General Administration Department. Township Officer U Thaung Hein reported on data of the region, food sufficiency in the region, cultivation of monsoon paddy, oil palm, rubber, pepper and physic nut and regional development.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo discussed agriculture, education and health matters. He said the government is endeavouring for the development of agriculture sector with greater momentum. Paddy can be grown in arid zone through irrigation and river water pumping stations. Efforts are to be made for food sufficiency in the region and highland cultivation is to be undertaken.

He spoke of the need for officials concerned to organize local people to engage not only in fisheries but in cultivation of paddy and physic nut. He said arrangements are being made to fulfill the requirements of entrepreneurs. Priority must be given to promotion of education and health care service, he added.

The government has provided facilities for the township to possess the characteristics of a city, he

Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander and party visited Pyigyi Mandaing Hospital (16-bed) and had a chat with the patients undergoing treatment at the hospital. Next, they inspected roads and bridges along Bokpyin-Taninthayi region.

At the briefing hall, Superintending Engineer U Ba Wan reported on construction of road sections. Lt-Gen Maung Bo gave instructions on upgrading of roads and called for implementation of the tasks as soon as possible.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo, the commander and party went to the oil palm plantations of Kanbawza Agro-Industry Ltd and met with departmental officials.

Later, Lt-Gen Maung Bo inspected construction of Taninthayi Township Hall.

MNA

Central Committee for Organizing Mid-year Myanma Gems Emporium meets

YANGON, 19 Oct -Patron of the Central Committee Organizing the Mid-year Myanma Gems Emporium Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint this morning visited Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township where gem merchants examined jade lots and viewed sales of pearl lots of the Mid-year Myanma Gems Emporium at Myanma Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning.

Yesterday afternoon, the second meeting of the Central Committee for Organizing the Mid-



Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint addresses 2nd meeting of Central Committee for Holding Mid-Year Myanma Gems Emporium for 2006. — MNA

year Myanma Gems Emporium 2006 was held at the hall of Myanmar Convention Centre, with an address by Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint.

Secretary of the Central Committee Managing Director U Thein Swe of Myanma Gems Enterprise and officials took part in the discussions.

At 9 am today, Ambassadors, Charges d'Affaires ai of foreign missions, Military Attachés and responsible persons of UN visited agencies

Myanma Gems Mart | Ministry of Foreign organized by the Central Committee Organizing the Mid-year Myanma Emporium 2006.

Officials of the

Affairs, the Ministry of Mines and Myanma Enterprise Gems conducted them round the emporium.

MNA



Diplomats visit Mid-Year Myanma Gems Emporium for 2006. MNA



Gem merchants view jade lots displayed at Myanmar Convention Centre.—MNA

ADVERTISEMENTS

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E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm for Ferrero S.p.A. G.P.O Box:666 P.O. Box 60, Yangon 20 October 2006 Dated: 20 October 2006 **Botswanian President promotes**

"development diamonds"

GAHORONE, 18 Oct— Botswanian diamonds are "development diamonds" and when people buy diamonds they are supporting education, helping provide clean water and fight against AIDS in the Southern African country, Botswanian President Festus Mogae said.

"We are the most diamond dependant country and also a peaceful country, ours are not conflict diamonds but development diamonds," Mogae said in an interview with Xinhua on Monday.

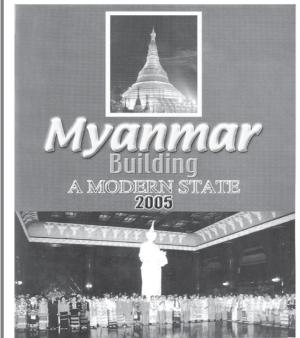
Diamonds account for 30 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) of Botswana which produced 31.9 million carats last year.

However, the President said he was recently worried about an upcoming film "The Blood Diamond" that might link the precious stone with conflicts and blood.

The theme of the film was based on what had happened in some other African countries, but in Botswana there had been no conflict, he said.

The President, who is scheduled to attend the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) in Beijing in November, said he was glad that Botswana had been approved by China as a destination for its tourists.

MNA/Xinhua



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United Nations **Development Programme**



Vacancy Announcement

Applications are invited from interested Myanmar nationals for the post of National Project Coordinator, UN Inter-Agency Project in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (RAS/03/100), Yangon.

Detailed Terms of Reference of the post is posted on the UN Bulletin Board at No. 6 Natmauk Road, Tamwe Township, Yangon.

Applications should be addressed to: The Resident Coordinator, attention: Human Resources Unit, UNDP office, No. 6, Natmauk Road, Yangon.

Requirements: Advance University degree in relevant social science; At least 5 years of professional working experience in development project; At least 3 years of professional working experience in the field of human trafficking and/or migration Myanmar: Excellent communications and networking skills and the ability to work as a team member; Strong interpersonal and negotiating skills; Sound judgment and discretion: Excellent command of written and spoken English and Myanmar language; Literacy in Window-base computer applications: Knowledge on gender and human-right.

Only those candidates in whose qualifications and experience the Office has further interest will be contacted for subsequent interviews.

UN practice relating to recruitment prohibits hiring of persons currently engaged by Government services or who left Government service during the past 6 months.

UNDP regrets its inability to reply individually or attend to telephone queries on the above advertised post.

Closing Date: 3 November 2006

Sony to recall 90,000 batteries for Vaio laptops in Japan, China

Токуо, 18 Ост — Sony Corp said on Tuesday it will recall some 90,000 lithium-ion battery packs it made for its Vaio laptop computers in Japan and China for potential risks of overheating.

Sony will recall 60,000 batteries from Japan and 30,000 from China. The batteries being recalled were used in 12 Vaio models, the company said. The replacement programme will be published on 7 November on Sony's website.

MNA/Xinhua

Annan calls for global alliance in fighting poverty

United Nations, 18 Oct— UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan urged the international community to join in the struggle against poverty and make this "moral challenge of the present age" a calling for the many, instead of a task for the few.

The UN chief made the appeal in a message for the 14th International Day for the Eradication of Poverty which falls on Tuesday.

The UN chief noted that this year's theme "Working together out of poverty" highlights the need for a truly global antipoverty alliance, which calls for the active

participation of both developed and developing countries.

The world has made real but insufficient progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), Annan said, noting while extreme poverty declined significantly between 1990 and 2002 from 28 per cent to 19 per cent of the developing world's population, progress has been uneven both within and between regions and countries.

In much of Asia, economic and social progress has lifted nearly a quarter of a billion people out of perpetual poverty. But poverty

rates in Western Asia and Northern Africa have remained stagnant, while the transition economies of Eastern Europe and Central Asia have registered in-Africa lags far behind, with the region unlikely to meet the MDG of halving extreme poverty by 2015, the Secretary-General said.

Annan stressed that more needs to be done to tackle poverty and underdevelopment.

He urged developed nations to come through on their Official **Development Assistance** and debt relief commitments, and developing nations, for their part, to adopt national strategies to achieve the MDG.

For developing countries already on track to achieve the goals, they can aim higher by adopting creases, sub-Saharan | even more ambitious targets, Annan added.

The UN chief deplored that "global partnership for development" remains more phrase than fact.

He urged all key development actors, governments, the private sector, civil society and people living in poverty, the undertake a truly collective anti-poverty effort that will lift living standards and alleviate human suffering.

MNA/Xinhua

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Miss Japan in 2006 Japan Beauty Contest.—Internet

China's centenarians say habits more important than genes

Beijing, 18 Oct—Summing up their secrets for a long life, centenarians in China's largest commercial city Shanghai are adamant that good living habits are more important than genes.

By the end of the year there will be more than 800 people in Shanghai who are 100 years old or older, up a sprightly 200 on 2005, according to the Society for Senior Citizens of Shanghai.

The longevity secrets of 50 centenarians living in Shanghai are revealed in a book compiled by the society.

Wang Chuanfu, vice president of the society,

said that genetic factors contribute 15 per cent to longevity, social factors 10 per cent, improvements in medical care 8 per cent and climate conditions 7 per cent.

But the habits of the elderly account for a robust 60 per cent, said Wang. Centenarians' lifestyle similarities include being cheerful and broad-minded, being kind to others, enjoying work,

getting regular exercise, not being too choosy about food, having a good sleep pattern, not smoking, drinking relatively little alcohol and leading a harmonious family life.

The secret of 105year-old Pan Zhiyong is regular exercise.

He has walked more than 2,000 metres everyday since he retired, Wang said.

Healthy living habits reduce the incidence of many diseases such as high blood pressure, diabetes and tumors, Wang added.

MNA/Xinhua

Antarctic ice collapse tied to greenhouse gases

Oslo, 18 Oct—Scientists said on Monday that they had found the first direct evidence linking the collapse of an ice shelf in Antarctica to global warming widely blamed on human activities.

Shifts in winds whipping around the southern Ocean, tied to human emissions of greenhouse gases, had warmed the Antarctic peninsula jutting up toward South America and contributed to the break-up of the Larsen B ice shelf in 2002, they said.

"This is the first time that anyone has been able to demonstrate a physical process directly linking the break-up of the Larsen Ice Shelf to human activity," said Gareth Marshall, lead author of the study at the British Antarctic Survey.

The chunk that collapsed into the Weddell Sea in 2002 was 3,250 square kilometres (1,255 square miles), bigger than Luxembourg or the US state of Rhode Island.

Most climate experts say greenhouse gases, mainly from fossil fuels burnt in power plants, factories and cars, are warming the globe and could bring more erosion, floods or rising seas. They are wary of linking individual events—such as a heat wave or a storm to warming. But the British and Belgian scientists, writing in the Journal of Climate, said there was evidence that global warming and a thinning of the ozone layer over Antarctica, caused by human chemicals, had strengthened winds blowing clockwise around Antarctica. The Antarctic peninsula's chain of mountains, about 2,000 metres (6,500 feet) high, used to shield the Larsen ice shelf on its eastern side from the warmer winds.

"If the westerlies strengthen the number of times that the warm air gets over the mountain barrier increases quite dramatically," John King, a co-author of the study at the British Antarctic Survey, told Reuters.— MNA/Reuters



In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, model presents style creations by Chinese dresser Mao Geping during the opening ceremony of the 5th China International Beauty Fashion Week in Beijing, capital of China on 18 Oct, 2006. Some 30 fashion events will be held during the fashion week. —XINHUA

New cases of music piracy found in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 18 Oct— Twenty-five new cases of illegal music file-sharing and downloading have been found in Singapore just days after the police raided the homes of seven illegal music file-sharers.

According to Channel NewsAsia reports on Tuesday, the Recording Industry Association of Singapore (RIAS) has filed the 25 new cases with the police, which involve users who are illegally downloading and sharing music files via international networks.

MNA/Xinhua



This undated photo, supplied by Christie's auction house, shows a ring with a rectangular-cut diamond, weighing approximately 30.80 carats, mounted in platinum, owned by actress Ellen Barkin, which was one of more than 100 pieces of her jewellery sold at an auction in New York recently on 10 Oct, 2006.—Internet

One mln of English children getting poor education

London, 18 Oct—A parliamentary committee said on Tuesday nearly one million children are getting a poor education in English schools, drawing a furious reaction from the government and teachers' unions.

The Public Accounts Committee based its judgment on a National Audit Office study which showed 1,557 schools in England were poorly performing, representing about 4 per cent of primary schools and 23 per cent of secondary schools.

The figures in the report, "Improving Poorly Performing Schools in England", are based on a mixture of statistics from the Department of Education and inspections body Ofsted.

Schools Minister Jim Knight said the committee's figures were an "exaggeration".

"The report compares apples with pears, mixing together numbers of schools which are failing with numbers of schools which are simply performing less well than others with similar characteristics," he added.

MP Edward Leigh, chairman of the committee, said in a statement accompanying the report: "Nearly one million children in England attend schools which, according to government definitions, are providing a poor standard of education.— MNA/Reuters



Bayern's Philipp Lahm, left, jumps for the ball with Sporting's Alecsandro from Brazil, up, during the Group B UEFA Champions League soccer match between Sporting and Bayern Munich in Lisbon, Portugal, on 18 Oct, 2006. Sporting was defeated by Bayern with 0-1.—Internet

Crouch guides Liverpool to victory at Bordeaux

BORDEAUX (France), 19 Oct — A Peter Crouch header earned Liverpool a 1-0 victory at Girondins Bordeaux on Wednesday as the five-times European champions took a big step towards the Champions League knockout stage.

Crouch struck in the 58th minute, heading home a Craig Bellamy corner, to keep Liverpool top of Group C with seven points -- the same as secondplaced PSV Eindhoven.

The Dutch side, who beat Galatasaray 2-1 on Wednesday, have scored fewer goals -- but share a commanding six-point gap separating the top two clubs from their rivals.

Liverpool, who travel to Old Trafford to face Manchester United in the Premier League at the weekend, were without talismanic captain Steven Gerrard through injury.

Despite the England midfielder's absence, the visitors dictated the early pace, with Wales striker Bellamy proving a constant menace to the Bordeaux defence.

The French side, who had little choice but to attack after taking only one point from their opening two matches, were short of inspiration.

The Reds had control of the midfield and in a sign of growing frustration, defender Franck Jurietti picked up a yellow card for a rough challenge on Mark Gonzalez.

Bordeaux had their first chance in the 25th minute when former Werder Bremen playmaker Johan Micoud's header from a Wendel free kick shaved keeper Jose Reina's left post.

Ten minutes from the interval, Crouch nearly opened the scoring with a volley from close range which the England striker sent just wide.

MNA/Reuters



Liverpool's Peter Crouch, left, scores his side's first goal during their UEFA Champions League soccer match against Bordeaux, on 18 Oct, 2006, in Bordeaux Stadium, southwestern France. Bordeaux and Liverpool FC play in group C with PSV and Galatasaray. —INTERNET

Drogba special gives Chelsea 1-0 Barcelona win

London, 19 Oct — A craftsman's goal from in-form Chelsea striker Didier Drogba earned Chelsea a 1-0 win over holders Barcelona on Wednesday and a foothold in the knockout stage of the Champions League.

It was the third win out of three for the English champions and put them in command of Group A, on nine points, five ahead of the Barcelona and Werder Bremen, 2-0 winners over Levski Sofia.

The second half was less than two minutes old when Drogba, surrounded by defenders, controlled a cross from full back Ashley Cole, swivelled to escape Barca captain Carles Puyol and smashed the ball home.

It was the third season in a row that the two sides had met in Champions League, Chelsea triumphing two seasons ago and Barcelona gaining revenge last March on their way to the title.

Wednesday's encounter, fast, entertaining and skilful though it was, lacked the raw passion of the previous knockout meetings that had been full

The London side created the best chance of the first half when after a pinpoint pass from Michael Essien, Drogba, Chelsea's top scorer this season, launched towards goal and beat advancing goalkeeper Victor Valdes. But defender Rafael Marquez was able to squeeze the ball out for a corner from under the feet of Andriy Shevchenko.

MNA/Reuters



Chelsea's Didier Drogba (L) scores a goal against Barcelona during their Champions League Group A soccer match at Stamford Bridge in London, on 18 Oct, 2006.—INTERNET

Motors stun Tigers to reach Asian final

SEOUL, 19 Oct -Chonbuk Motors thrashed South Korean rivals Ulsan Tigers 4-1 away to reach the Asian Champions League final on Wednesday. Chonbuk overturned a 3-2 first-leg deficit to win the semifinal 6-4 on aggregate and will face either

Syria's Al Karama or Kuwait's Al Qadisiya in next month's final.

Defender Choi Jincheul headed home in the 10th minute and Chung Jung-hwan added a second for the Motors 10 minutes later to give the South Korean FA Cup holders the edge. Motors made it 3-0 midway through the second half with a superb strike from Lim Yoo-hwan.

South Korea striker Lee Chun-soo pulled one back for Ulsan but Lee Kwanghyeon settled the tie from close range with eight minutes to go.—*MNA/Reuters*

Cruz double gives Inter Milan win over Spartak

MILAN, 19 Oct — Argentine Julio Ricardo Cruz struck twice for Inter Milan as they beat Russia's Spartak Moscow 2-1 in Champions League Group B on Wednesday to pick up their first points of the campaign.

Cruz was selected ahead of Brazilian Adriano and Inter coach Roberto Mancini's decision paid off handsomely as the forward put Inter ahead with a first-time strike in the second minute and then added a second with a header seven minutes later.

Spartak pulled a goal back in the 54th minute through Roman Pavlyuchenko who slotted home a low

cross from Denis Boyarintsev to make it 2-1 but, while hardly sparkling, Inter deserved their win which gets them off the bottom of the group.

The Russians went close to a late equalizer but Inter's Brazilian keeper Julio Cesar did well to keep out a shot from the impressive Boyarintsev to ensure victory after the Itlaian side had lost their opening two games to Sporting Lisbon and Bayern Munich.

Mancini's decision to drop out-ofform Brazilian striker Adriano and give a start to Argentine Cruz alongside Uruguayan Alvaro Recoba paid instant dividends.—MNA/Reuters

Malaysian, Sri Lankan boxers may train in Philippines

Manila, 19 Oct — The Philippine boxing team will train with national squads from Malaysia and Sri Lanka as it gears up for the 15th Doha Asian Games, local media reported on Wednes-

Malaysian and Sri Lankan boxers have expressed interests in having a training camp in the country, Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines President Manny Lopez was quoted by The Manila Bulletin as saying. "They (Sri Lanka and Malaysia) have already confirmed and they really wanted to train with us," Lopez said. "We still have ongoing talks with other countries if they still wanted to join the training sessions." Training sessions, which involve public sparring practices, will start from 1-15 November in Baguio City.

MNA/Xinhua



Gymnast Zhang Nan of China performs her routine on the beam during the women's team final at the 39th Artistic Gymnastics World Championships in Aarhus, Denmark. China won the title ahead of the US and Russia.—Internet

UN joins campaign to stand up against poverty

UNITED NATIONS, 19 Oct — "Stand Up Against Poverty" has been confirmed by officials with the Guinness Headquarters as "the single largest coordinated human movement" against poverty with over 23.5 million participants worldwide in a period of 24 hours, announced UN Under-Secretary-General Shashi Tharoor here on Tuesday.

The global "Stand Up Against Poverty" initiative, spearheaded by the UN Millennium Campaign, is part of the activities to mark the 14th International Day for Eradication of Poverty.

It is aimed to maintain momentum from the G-8 and 2005 World Summit and remind world leaders about the commitments they made there.

Participants stand up from a squatting position as a symbol of their will to take action on poverty and hunger, then they will jointly read a pledge as "members of a generation that intends to defeat extreme poverty".

Within a period of 24 hours, over 500 such events were staged in more than 50 countries worldwide. Through these activities, organizers wish to demonstrate to policy makers the growing global support for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and for the strengthening of development policies in both developed and developing countries, Campaign **Executive Coordinator** Eveline Herfkens said.

In New York, thousands gathered in the city's Times Square on Sunday night to "stand up" and call for action against poverty.

seated when tens of thousands of people die of poverty every day," the crowd recited as the Times Square crystal ball made its first-ever appearance outside of New Year's Eve. — MNA/Xinhua



Models pose next to a train during a fashion show at the main railway station "Hauptbahnhof" in Berlin on 14 Oct, 2006. Some 100 models represented several fashion designers at Germany's biggest public fashion show in the German capital on Saturday.—Internet



Friday, 20 October View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော် ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓဇမဟာရဌ ဂုရု၊ အဘိဓဇအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မ ဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

8:05 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:55 am 5.လှုပ်ရှားပုံပြင် စိတ်ပျော်ရွှင်

6. The mirror images of the musical oldies

8:15 am

7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. English for Everyday Use

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Musical programme

4:45 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ –ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရုက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု)

(ရုက္ခဗေဒ) 5:00 pm

5. Song of national races

5:15 pm

6. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစကား

5:30 pm 7. "ജ്യേട്ടിങ്ങം"

(ဇင်ဝိုင်း၊ ငွေစင်သွန်း၊ ခင်သန်း<u>န</u>ယ်)

(ဒါရိုက်တာ–ကျော်ဇောလင်း)

5:45 pm 8. Song of yesteryears

6:00 pm

9.Evening news

6:30 pm

10. Weather report

6:35 pm

11. သုတစုံလင် ရွှေဘုဏ်ရှင် 7:05 pm

12. နိုင်ငံခြားဧာတ်လမ်းတွဲ

"အချစ်နတ်သမီး" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)

8:00 pm

13. News

14. International news

15. Weather report

16.၂၀၀၆ခုနှစ် (၁၄) ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီး ပြိုင်ပွဲ

17. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရေသူမလေး ပထမချစ်ပုံပြင်" (အပိုင်း–၁၀)

18. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးဝိစိတ္ကသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ် ဆယ်မျက်နှာ မေတ္တာဘာဝနာ ပွားများခြင်း တရားတော်

19. The next day's programme

"We cannot stay



Friday, 20 October **Tune in today**

8:30 am Brief news 8:35 am Music:

-I like your style 8:40 am Perspectives 8:45 am Music:

-Good sign 8:50 am National news/

Slogan

9:00 am Music:

-I gotta know

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music:

-Right now

1:30 pm News / Slogan 1:40pm Lunch time

> music: -Promise me you'll try

> -What about -Can you feel the love

-Lonely **9:00pm**WOM

-Germany, Italy India, Korea, Japan

9:10pm Article 9:20pm Music at your

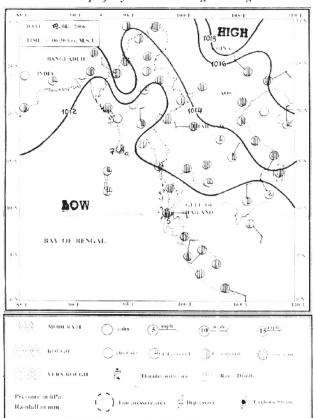
> request -Miss me everything

-The day & the time

-When the stars go blue

9:45 pm News / Slogan **10:00 pm** PEL

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Thursday, 19 October, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Magway Division, isolated in Shan and Chin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Aveyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Chauk (0.91) inch and Taungdwingyi (0.20) inch.

Maximum temperature on 18-10-2006 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 19-10-2006 was 78°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 19-10-2006 was 83%. Total sunshine hours on 18-10-2006 was 6.6 hours approx.

Rainfalls on 19-10-2006 were (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were 98.46 inches at Mingaladon and 111.42 inches at Kaba Aye and 116.61 inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 7 mph from West at 15:30 hours MST on 18-10-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 20-10-2006: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be widespread in Kachin State, upper Sagaing Division, scattered in Chin and northern Shan States and Taninthayi Division, isolated in Rakhine, eastern and southern Shan States, Mandalay, Magway, Yangon and Bago Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 60%.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 20-10-2006: Possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers in the afternoon or evening. Degree of certainty is 40%.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 20-10-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 20-10-2006: Possibility of isolated light rain or thundershowers in the afternoon or evening. Degree of certainty is 40%.

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Delegate groups of National Convention hold meetings

YANGON, 19 Oct — Delegate groups of national races, peasants and intellectuals and intelligentsia held group meetings at the designated places of Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawhy Township today.

Delegate Group of National Races

The group meeting of Delegate Group of National Races was held at the Pyidaungsu Hall this morning. U Kyaw Din (a) U Htay Yei of Kayah State presided over the meeting together with members of the Panel of Chairmen U Aung Zan Wai of Rakhine State, U Mahn Ohn Maung of Kayin State, Duwa Zoke Daung of Shan State (North) and U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint of Taninthayi Division. Deputy Director U Tin Maung Oo of Work Group-5 of the National Convention Convening Work Committee and Assistant Director U Ye Lwin acted as MCs.

First, the MC declared the start of the group meeting as 639 out of 645 delegates were in attendance, accounting for 99.07 per cent.

Alternate Chairman of the Meeting U Kyaw Din (a) U Htay Yei extended greetings.

Next, U Myat Ko of Sagaing Division and Daw Nann Than Than Soe of Shan State read out the proposal paper of the Delegate Group of National Races concerning the clarification of the National Convention Convening Work Committee Chairman concerning separate suggestions to seek the approvals of the delegate groups, and these suggestions were submitted by the delegate groups to lay down detailed basic principles for the functions on legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Region or State Hluttaw to be included in writing the State Constitution, the chapter on the citizens and fundamental rights and duties of the citizens and the role of the Tatmadaw.

(See page 10)

14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural **Performing Arts Competitions continue**

Nay Pyi Taw, 19 Oct — The 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions were held on a grand scale for the fifth day at Auditorium and Lecture Theatre of University of Agriculture; Convocation Hall of University of Veterinary Science; Auditoriums of Agricultural Research Department and Forest Research Department in Nay Pyi Taw today.

Present were Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Chairman of Leading Committee for Organizing

(See page 6) **Press Conference on Mid-year**

Replies received from 1,193 gem merchants of 312 companies in 12 countries

Myanma Gems Emporium 2006 held

Yangon, 19 Oct — A ceremony to commence the Mid-year Myanma Gems Emporium 2006 was held at Myanma Gems Mart and Myanmar Convention Centre in Mayangon Township this morning.

Present on the occasions were member of the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council Director-General U Khin Maung Htay of Myanma

Radio and Television, Patron of Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club U Hla Htway, President U Sao Kai Hpa, Secretary U Thitsa Hla Htwe and members and officials of News and Periodicals Enterprise and media persons.

Local and foreign journalists viewed pearl and gem lots at Myanma Gems Mart.

The Secretary of the Central Committee for Organizing the Emporium Managing Director of Myanma Gems Enterprise and members met with local and foreign journalists at the press confer-

First, the Central Committee Secretary said that quality gem lots will be sold in quantity at the Mid-year Myanma Gems Emporium 2006. Pearl merchants from abroad are expected to increase attendance at the emporium. Invitations were sent to



Ma Aye Lin Thu of Kachin State taking part in basic education level (aged 10-15) girls' violin contest. — MNA

Vesantara drama contest goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct — The Vesantara Drama Contest of the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued at University of Veterinary Science in Yezin today and anyone may enjoy the competitions free of charge.

U Kyaw Soe Min and Troupe representing Magway Division will take part in the contest tomorrow. — MNA

1,039 gem companies from 25 countries. So far, replies have been received from 1,193 gem merchants

of 312 companies in 12 | tend the emporium. countries. However, it is estimated that about 1,500 gem merchants would at-

He explained that arrangements have been made to sell 291 pearl lots, 468 gem lots and 4,237 jade lots, totalling 4,996 at the emporium to be sold through tender and competitive bidding systems.

Next, the Central Committee Secretary and Managing Director U Maung Toe of Myanma Pearl Enterprise replied to the questions raised by the journalists. Later, the journalists viewed jade lots displayed at the Myanmar Convention Centre.— MNA



Managing Director of Myanma Gems Enteprise U Thein Swe briefs on Mid-Year Myanma Gems Emporium. — MNA