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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 attends donation ceremony for six monasteries in Pazundaung, Botahtaung Townships



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party share merits at the ceremony to donate alms of Tatmadaw families and wellwishers to six monasteries in Pazundaung and Botahtaung Townships.— MNA

YANGON, 9 Oct — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the ceremony to donate provisions of Tatmadaw families and wellwishers to six monasteries in Botahtaung and Pazundaung Townships this afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of

Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, the deputy ministers, senior military officers, local authorities and wellwishers.

Presiding Nayaka of Botahtaung Mingalarama Pali Tekkatho Monastery member of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Agga Maha Ganthavaçaka Pandita Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Ratthasara administered the Five Precepts.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein offered provisions to Presiding Nayaka of Phayabyu Monastery Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Narindabhivamsa.

The commander, the deputy ministers and senior military officers presented alms to members of the Sangha.

Next, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun, Vice Adju-

tant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and Colonel General Staff (Air) Col Nay Win offered alms donated by Tatmadaw families to the Sayadaws.

Similarly, well-wishers presented offer-

tures to members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, the commander, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Deputy Minis-

ter for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun, Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe,

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Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein offers provisions to a Sayadaw.— MNA

INSIDE

The neo-colonialists of the West group are viewing the perpetration of their lackeys as human rights and democracy activities. Thus their accusations in reality are lopsided slanders against the Tatmadaw government.

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KYAW MYINT NAING

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 10 October, 2005

Strive for emergence of discipline-flourishing democratic nation

The State Peace and Development Council has laid down and is implementing the seven-point Road Map phase by phase for the emergence of a peaceful modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, while striving for prevalence of peace and tranquility in the nation and national development.

At present, the National Convention, the first and crucial step of the Road Map, is in progress and sector-wise discussions are being held for the drawing of the State Constitution.

The National Convention will resume by the end of 2005. Accordingly, the National Convention Convening Commission has been holding meetings to discuss matters to be submitted to the convention as well as those on successful holding of the meeting.

The meeting (6/2005) of the National Convention Convening Commission was held at the meeting hall of the commission on Kyaikkasan Grounds on 8 October 2005, with an address by Chairman of NCCC Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

In his address, the Secretary-1 stressed the need for the officials of the committees and the sub-committees to make arrangements for invitation, transport, reception and accommodation of the delegates.

The delegates of political parties, the delegates of representatives-elect, the delegates of national races, the delegates of peasants, the delegates of workers, the delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, the delegates of State service personnel, and other invited guests will attend the convention and discuss matters on laying down basic principles and detailed basic principles for the drawing of the State Constitution. Nowadays, detailed basic principles on sharing of legislative powers have already been laid down.

All the delegates representing the entire national people are to draw basic principles in conformity with own national character, traditions and customs and implement them phase by phase.

Hence, we would like to call upon the entire national people to take part in the drive for success of the National Convention, a prerequisite for the emergence of a peaceful modern developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation by doing their bit.

ကမ္ဘာ့မျက်စိမြင်ပျောက်ရေးနေ့

World Sight Day

၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ (၁၃)ရက်

“အမြင်သန့်စွမ်း နို့အခွင့်အလမ်း၊
၂၀၂၀-အရောက်လှမ်း”

“Vision 2020-The Right to Sight.
Elimination of Avoidable Blindness”

ကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန

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

Commander, Secretariat Member attend Annual General Meeting of Mandalay Division USDA



Secretariat Member Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang speaking at Mandalay Division USDA Annual General Meeting.—INDUSTRY-1

YANGON, 8 Oct — Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and Development Association held the annual general meeting 2005 at its office in Mandalay yesterday morning.

It was attended by Patron of Mandalay Division USDA Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Secretariat Member of USDA Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang, departmental officials, members of Mandalay Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association Supervisory Committee, members of Mandalay Division Women's Affairs Organization, Red Cross Society, War Veterans Organization, representatives of National Convention, the secretary and executives of Mandalay Division USDA, executives of six districts and 31 townships, outstanding youths and wellwishers.

Speaking on the occasion, the commander said that seven objectives have been laid down for organizing this year's annual general meeting. Emphasis is to be placed on successful realization of the objectives which are not only for the nation and the people but for work guideline of the association. Upholding the seven objectives, it is necessary to discuss yearly accomplishments of the associations at different levels and future tasks. Furthermore, organizational, administrative, economic, social, cultural and educational reports are to be submitted to the meeting. Next, the Secretariat Member gave a speech. Afterwards, prizes were presented to outstanding youths. The commander and the secretariat member accepted cash donations from wellwishers. Afterwards, the annual general meeting followed. Later, the meeting ended with the remarks by the chairman. — MNA

Dry Day Supervisory Committee makes inspection



Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint checks functions of a dry day inspection team.—MNA

YANGON, 9 Oct — Chairman of Dry Day Supervisory Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint together with Leader of Supervisory Group Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu and members Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and departmental heads, and another Leader of Supervisory Group Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe together with members Director-General Brig-Gen Khin Yi of Myanmar Police Force and departmental heads supervised the functions of the dry day inspection teams at the main points in Yangon City this morning and afternoon.

The dry day inspection teams checked dry day pass, driver's licence and wheel tax bill of Tadmaw and departmental vehicles, the wearing of departmental uniforms and traffic rules violations from 7 am to 5 pm today.

CASH DONATED: U Tin Thein-Dr Daw Mya Mya Than and family of No 3B, Thitsa Road in Ward 6 of Yankin Township donated K 100,000 for Hninzigon Home for the Aged recently. Vice-Chairman of the Administrative Board of the Home Lt-Col Kyaw Shein (Retd) accepts the donation.—H



MNA

Counterterror effort must not be confined to specific groups

UNITED NATIONS, 8 Oct — Declaring that it was determined to confront the challenges of terrorism “decisively and completely”, India has said efforts to counter the menace must not be confined to specific individuals or groups but concentrate on its “thorough and systematic” eradication.

Terrorism constitutes global threat and undermines freedom and democracy, Indian delegate to the UN Inderjit told a General Assembly committee on Thursday. Therefore, he said, counter-terrorism effort must not be confined to specific individuals or groups. Nor should it deal with superficial symptoms of the malaise.

He said the efforts must concentrate on a “thorough and systematic destruction” of this phenomenon. “Ter-

rorism must be rooted out of its roots, its support bases destroyed and its diverse manifestation across world addressed appropriately.”

There can be no compromise on war against terror, Inderjit said, adding India was determined to confront the challenges posed by it “decisively and completely”. Without naming Pakistan but obviously referring to it, he charged “a few states” with flouting the UN’s directive against providing moral,

material, financial and logistic sponsorship as also arms to terrorists. “States must ensure that their territories are not used for terrorist installations or training camps...”, the Indian envoy said. Inderjit said the world body’s directive

made it clear that no consideration of political, philosophical, racial ideological, ethnic, religious or any other nature could justify criminal acts intended or calculated to promote a state of terror among the general public.--MNA/PTI

ထုတ်ကုန်နှစ်ဆ တိုးမြှင့်ကြ

Landslide buries Indian bus, Israeli among 13 dead

CHANDIGARH (India), 8 Oct — A landslide buried a passenger bus in northern India on Friday, killing 13 people, including an Israeli man, police said.

Six people were also injured in the accident, which occurred in a remote area near Manikaran Town in the mountainous state of Himachal Pradesh.

Manikaran is about 300 kilometres (186 miles) north of Shimla, the state capital.

A police official said a Nepali woman was also among the dead. Police suspect two unidentified bodies are also those of foreigners. “Their bodies have been recovered from the debris that buried the bus,” the police official told Reuters by phone, adding that there had been 19 people in the vehicle.

Witnesses said rescuers used their hands and pick axes to get through the rubble and take out the injured and dead.

Known for its snow-capped mountains and heavily forested valleys, Himachal Pradesh is a favourite destination for thousands of tourists, especially young backpackers. — MNA/Reuters



A convoy of British military vehicles pauses while on patrol in the southern Iraq city of Basra on 8 Oct, 2005.

INTERNET

US troops kill four Afghan police with “friendly fire”

KABUL, 8 Oct — US troops killed four Afghan policemen and wounded another after mistaking them for militants during an operation in southern Afghanistan in which two Afghan soldiers died, officials said on Friday.

The incident happened on Thursday in Helmand Province’s Girishk District when US troops spotted a vehicle carrying five armed men approaching an area where they were in contact with militants, said US spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Jerry O’Hara. He said the police officers had not been in the uniform of the Afghan National Police and the vehicle had tried to drive away quickly.

“Coalition forces shot at the vehicle, killing four and wounding one,” he said. “We are conducting an investigation. Of course we regret this incident.”

A senior police officer in Helmand, Haji Mohammad Rahim, said the friendly fire incident occurred after Taliban guerrillas attacked a convoy of US

and Afghan troops in the same district, killing two Afghan soldiers.

MNA/Reuters

Arab League warns of civil war in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 8 Oct — The Arab League warned on Saturday that civil war “could erupt at any moment” in Iraq, saying it hopes to help stop the country sliding into chaos as tensions rise ahead of a historic vote on a new constitution.

But the league may not be entirely welcome in a new Iraq where a Shiite-Kurdish majority is embittered by the predominantly Sunni pan-Arab group’s silence over Saddam Hussein’s crimes against the two communities and its indifference to groups that opposed his regime from exile.

Saddam, himself a Sunni Arab, enjoyed the support of the league in the 1990s over the question of UN sanctions and threats of military action in the run-up to the 2003 Iraq war.

The Shiites and Kurds — who together account for about 80 percent of Iraq’s estimated 26 million people — fear that the league is not prepared to accept their domination of postwar Iraq and that the Cairo-based organization could try and manoeuvre Sunnis back to

a position of power.

Iraq’s Shiite-dominated government has yet to say whether it will allow a proposed Arab League “national reconciliation” conference to take place, though it said the league’s chief, Amr Moussa, was welcome to visit.

“The situation (in Iraq) is so tense there is a threat looming in the air about civil war that could erupt at any moment, although some people would say that it is already there,” Moussa told British Broadcasting Corp radio in an interview.

“We can’t just leave Iraq with the divisions and disagreements and conflicts and shootings,” said Moussa, who hopes to chair the proposed conference later this month.—Internet

Bus plunges into river in China, 20 killed

SHANGHAI, 9 Oct — Twenty passengers were killed when a bus plunged into a river in eastern China as the National Day holiday week wound down, the Xinhua news agency reported on Sunday. The bus, with 36 passengers aboard, hit a taxi and then smashed through the guard-rail of a bridge into the river in Zhejiang Province, Xinhua said. Police rescued 14 slightly injured passengers from the 6-metre-deep waters but 20 drowned and two were missing, the agency said. The four people in the taxi suffered minor injuries. The first week of October along with May’s Labour Day week and the Chinese Spring Festival in the early part of the year, comprise the country’s three “golden weeks” when hundreds of millions take to the road for holidays or to visit family.

China has the world’s highest annual road death toll. Last year, traffic accidents claimed nearly 107,000 lives.

MNA/Reuters

Quake death toll in Pakistan controlled Kashmir estimated at 30,000

ISLAMABAD, 9 Oct — An estimated 30,000 people were killed and 42,000 people injured in the powerful earthquake in the Pakistan controlled Kashmir, the region’s Minister for Works and Communication Tariq Farooq said on Sunday.

Major General Shaukat Sultan told private Geo television that across the country, 17,000 people were killed in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir and 1,000 more in Punjab and North West Frontier provinces. Over 210 Army jawans lost their lives due to the earthquake and more than 400 injured, Sultan said, adding the death toll could rise further. He said many affected areas were still not accessible. —MNA/Xinhua



Pakistani volunteers work at a collapsed building following an earthquake in Islamabad on 8 Oct, 2005. — INTERNET



Indian Army soldiers carry an injured in Badami Bagh Cantonment (BB cantt) in Srinagar on 8 Oct, 2005. A major earthquake shook cities and villages across the south Asian subcontinent on Saturday, including the Pakistan capital Islamabad where scores of people were feared killed or trapped when two buildings collapsed.

INTERNET

ဝက်ဟူဝင်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

Britain warns of "more vicious" attacks in Iraq

NEW DELHI, 7 Oct — British Defence Secretary John Reid said on Wednesday Iraqi guerillas would launch more "vicious" attacks on coalition forces and civilians ahead of a general election for a new government in December.

Reid also warned that Islamic guerillas were trying to spark a civil war by murdering scores of Shiites, who constitute the majority in the country.

"As things get steadily better in Iraq, there will be a period during which the terrorists will become more fanatic, more vicious and we have already seen it," Reid, who is on a two-day visit to India, told a news conference.

Besides fighting American, British and other coalition troops, the rebels were trying to ignite a civil war, he said. "That is why they are murdering en masse Shiite Muslims... they are doing it with an awful, terrible venom," Reid said. "It is with a purpose: to provoke a Shia backlash and create a civil war."

Britain has hundreds of soldiers in southern Iraq and 95 have been killed since the US-led invasion in March 2003. — MNA/Reuters

Suspected hoax sparks security alert in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 Oct — A suspected hoax designed to sow fears of a chemical attack in Malaysia's diplomatic district struck at five more embassies on Wednesday, police and diplomats said.

Slim packages containing a yellow, oily liquid — and in one case a powder — have been delivered to at least 10 embassies in the past two days, with a message condemning the countries for mistreating Muslims, Kuala Lumpur's police chief said.

The US, British, French and Australian missions all said they had received the suspicious packages in the mail on Wednesday, but none of the missions were evacuated. The packages were handed over to police and sent for analysis.

The Bernama news agency said the Russian Embassy also received a similar envelope. An embassy official, however, declined to comment.

"I think it's normal oil, it's nothing dangerous," Mustafa Abdullah told Reuters by phone from police headquarters.

The government said the country remained safe and that foreigners should not be unduly worried.

"Whatever precautionary measure that must be taken will be taken," Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar said. "Even after the 11 September (2001), there had been no backlash on foreign missions here."

Diplomats and police had already been put on alert after suicide bombings killed 27 people last Saturday on the resort is-

land of Bali, in neighbouring Indonesia. The security scare coincided with the eve of Ramadan, the holy Muslim fasting month.

"Yes, we received this morning a CD with traces of yellow liquid inside," a spokesman for the Australian High Commission said on Wednesday.

The French Embassy reported a similar discovery. "The police came to take a look and they took away the envelope. There was no evacuation," a French Embassy spokeswoman said.

Within hours, similar packages were found at the Canadian, German, Singaporean, Philippine and Thai missions.

MNA/Reuters

Iran rejects negotiations over N-facilities

TEHERAN, 7 Oct — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad rejected on Thursday negotiations over its controversial nuclear facilities, saying the country would not talk with countries demanding dismantlement.

"We do not reject negotiations, but we will never accept any negotiation which aims at depriving Iranian nation of its rights enshrined by NPT (Non-Proliferation Treaty)," Ahmadinejad told the state television in an interview.

Referring to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) board of governors' resolution on Iran last month, Ahmadinejad regretted that some IAEA members were doing under influence of the big powers.

"They gave up to big powers' pressures but we expect the IAEA to act upon the law," he said. "There are other countries besides the three European states (Britain, Germany and France) offered to enter into talks with Teheran, and Teheran is reviewing the offer," Ahmadinejad said, refus-

ing to name any specific country.

Echoing the President, Iran's top national security official and chief nuclear negotiator Ali Larijani also said on Thursday that "if the objective is to conduct nego-

tiations aimed at making us forget our right to the nuclear fuel cycle, the Iranian people will not accept such a thing".

Iran has been engaged in talks for the past two years with Britain, France and Germany. The EU trio

want Iran to give up nuclear fuel cycle, which can be diverted to military purposes.

Iran has refused the demand, insisting that its nuclear fuel cycle is for peaceful purposes.

MNA/Xinhua



Iranians chant slogans to support Iran's nuclear programme, as one of them holds an effigy representing US President George W Bush, during a demonstration in Teheran on 7 Oct, 2005.

INTERNET

UK says police among 12 held in Basra

BAGHDAD, 7 Oct — Basra police officers were among 12 people detained by coalition forces in a raid targeting terrorists in the southeastern city, according to the British military.

Friday's raid came the day after British Prime Minister Tony Blair accused Iran of helping fighters in Iraq carry out deadlier bombings against coalition forces.

Two weeks ago, in the wake of a controversial operation by British forces to rescue two soldiers sparked riots in Basra, a senior Iraqi official later said insurgents had infiltrated the country's security forces. The people, accused of being involved

in and planning attacks in the region, were detained in the Hadem area of the city on Thursday night in a raid that was carried out with "short notice."

"Some of the individuals are members of Basra police service," said a statement from the commander of the 12th Mechanized Brigade.

The statement issued on Friday said it was of great concern to the British military "that members of Basra police are involved in terrorism. We know that there are good people in the Iraqi police service and the actions of the few should not be allowed to obscure that fact." — Internet

1,952 US troops killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 8 Oct — As of Saturday, 8 Oct, 2005, at least 1,952 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,521 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,813 US military members have died, according to AP's count.

That includes at least 1,412 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Internet

Cameroon to strengthen cooperation with China in public health

YAOUNDE, 8 Oct— The Cameroonian Government is to further strengthen its cooperation with China in the area of public health, which has gained great achievements in the past 30 years, a senior official has said.

The cooperation between the two countries which began in the 1970s has proved very fruitful, with hundreds of Chinese doctors coming to the West African country during the last three decades to help the Cameroonian people, said Minister of Public Health Urbain Olanguena Awono on Wednesday

when addressing a ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the arrival of the first medical team sent by the Chinese Government to Cameroon.

The past three decades of cooperation was "great and productive", said Awono, "it has served the poorest group of people in Cameroon".

Since the first Chinese

medical team came to Cameroon in 1975, more than 300 Chinese doctors from China's Shanxi Province have served in the country. They have treated over two million Cameroon patients, performing around 40,000 operations and saving the lives of more than 25,000 seriously ill patients.

Awono hopes that this

"exemplary" cooperation could be further broadened, especially in areas of technical training, maintenance of equipment, pharmacy, medical health infrastructure and the fight against AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases.

During the ceremony, Awono awarded 15 Chinese doctors working in Cameroon with the medal of honour, in order to commend the great contribution they have made to the improvement of public health in the country.—MNA/Xinhua



A protestor holds a placard reading 'George Bush is terrorist No 1' during an anti-war demonstration in Warsaw, Poland, on 6 Oct, 2005. Hundreds of residents attended the demonstration, demanding a withdrawal of the Polish troops from Iraq.—INTERNET

India-China bilateral trade set to establish new record in '05

BEIJING, 8 Oct— Bilateral trade between India and China during the first eight months of this year has touched 12.2 billion US dollars and is all set to cross the record of 13.6 billion US dollars achieved in 2004.

During January-August period, total bilateral trade was worth 12.2 billion US dollars, up by 40.37 per cent over the same period last year, latest Chinese Customs statistics said.

India's exports to China grew by 28.27 per

cent to 6.7 billion US dollars while the country's imports from China witnessed a hefty 58.66-per-cent increase to touch 5.5 billion US dollars.

India enjoyed a trade surplus of 1.2 billion US dollars during the first eight-month period in

2005 compared to 1.7 billion US dollars last year, it said.

"If such high growth rates can be kept, the aim of increasing the bilateral trade volume to 20 billion US dollars or higher by 2008 will be realized soon if not this year," a trade analyst said.

MNA/PTI

Nine killed in S Korea construction collapse

SEOUL, 8 Oct— Nine South Korean construction workers were crushed to death and five injured when a three-storey structure they were building collapsed on top of them, police said on Friday.

Eight workers were killed at the scene and another died in hospital. Four of the five injured workers were in critical

condition, police said.

Concrete supports apparently crumbled, causing the structure to cave in on the workers on Thursday, police said, adding that they were

searching the rubble in case anyone else had been caught in the collapse. The incident took place in the city of Icheon, about 43 miles southeast of Seoul.—MNA/Reuters

Six US Marines killed in Iraq attacks

BAGHDAD, 9 Oct — Six US Marines were killed by roadside bomb blasts during combat operations in Iraq, the US military said on Friday, bringing the total US military death toll to at least 1,948 since the 2003 US-led invasion.

A military statement said four Marines died when a bomb went off in Gharna, near Fallujah, on Thursday. Fallujah, about 50 kilometres (30 miles) west of Baghdad, is a stronghold of Sunni Arab opposition to US occupation and the Shiite-led government.

Two more Marines were killed on Thursday by a roadside bomb while on patrol in the vicinity of Qaim near the Syrian border, where the US forces are conducting a major combat operation aimed at flushing out militant fighters, a separate military statement said.

US and British in Iraq have been repeatedly attacked in recent months by "shaped charges" which are able to pierce armour and hence much more deadly than conventional roadside bombs.—MNA/Reuters

Suicide car bomb kills seven in western Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 8 Oct— A suicide car bomb attacked police in western Baghdad on Saturday, killing at least seven people and wounding 16 others, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua.

"Some police were investigating at a traffic accident scene, and suddenly a car laden with explosives rushed toward them and blew up," the source said, adding "at least seven people, including one policeman and six civilians, were killed and another 16 were wounded, including 10 policemen and six civilians."

With a referendum on Iraq's draft constitution a week away, guerillas are intensifying attacks against police and military forces in a bid to disrupt the political process in the violence-ravaged country.—Internet

Washington Monument evacuated, no bomb found

WASHINGTON, 8 Oct— The Washington Monument was evacuated because of a telephone bomb threat but nothing dangerous was found after a search of the area, law enforcement officials said on Friday.

Sergeant Scott Fear of the National Park Police said on CNN television people were evacuated from the 555-foot (170-metre) obelisk on the National Mall after a threat was phoned in

at 2:24 pm EDT (1824 GMT). Nearly two hours later, federal officials said the area was all clear after nothing dangerous was found and the monument was reopened. One of the most famous landmarks in the United States, the monument named to honour the first US president, George Washington, lies less than one mile (1.6 kilometres) from the White House.

MNA/Reuters

Police find 22 bodies in southeast Iraq

BAGHDAD, 8 Oct— Iraqi police have found the bodies of 22 men handcuffed and shot dead in an area near the Iran border, officials said on Friday.

Police said the bodies were found near Badra Town in Wasit Province, 110 kilometres (69 miles) southeast of Baghdad, on Thursday.

They were taken to a local morgue and then transported to the Iraqi capital Baghdad where many of the victims had apparently lived, police said.

Family members chanting "There is no God but God" picked up some of the bodies on Friday, taking them home in flag-draped coffins. Some family members said their relatives had been abducted from their homes almost three months ago.

One old woman walked along the

street nearby screaming "where's my brother, where's my brother."

Many of the victims appeared to be members of Iraq's Sunni Arab minority, but there was no confirmation of that. Sunni guerillas are waging a bloody struggle with the Shi'ite majority and its northern Kurdish allies. Some Sunni leaders have accused Shi'ite militia of carrying out revenge attacks against Sunnis.

Police said shepherds in Wasit discovered the bodies in an area between Badra and the neighbouring town of Jassem and alerted local police.

MNA/Reuters



British soldiers tow away a disabled military vehicle while on patrol in the southern Iraqi city of Basra on 8 Oct, 2005.—INTERNET



Chinese school children sleep in a classroom during a noon break at a private elementary school for the children of migrant workers in China's financial centre Shanghai on 8 Oct, 2005.

INTERNET

Hu Jintao sends condolences to Musharraf over deadly quake

BEIJING, 9 Oct — Chinese President Hu Jintao on Saturday sent a message of condolences to his Pakistani counterpart Pervez Musharraf over the massive earthquake that caused heavy casualties and damages in the South Asian country.

Hu, on behalf of the Chinese Government and people and in his own name, offered his condolences, through Musharraf, to the victims' families and the injured, and expressed deep grief over those who were killed in the disaster. On the same day, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing also extended condolences to their Pakistani counter-

parts Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz and Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri over the deadly earthquake. A powerful earthquake, of a magnitude of 7.6 on the Richter scale,

rocked Pakistan, India and Afghanistan on Saturday morning, killing at least 1800 people and injuring thousands of others. The death toll is likely to rise.

MNA/Xinhua

Albania police arrest ten linked to human trafficking

TIRANE, 9 Oct — Albanian police arrested ten people who belonged to a massive criminal organization allegedly engaged in trafficking people from Albania to western Europe and the United States, authorities said Friday.

Police from the Ministry of Interior had followed the case for months before they made the arrests in the capital Tirane, the country's Grave Crimes Prosecutor General Adnan Kosova said at a Press conference.

The criminal cell, under the pretense of a travel agency called "Go West", was led by its boss Nokolin Cako who dispatched his underlings to different districts of Albania to find clients, Kosova said.

According to Kosova, Cako and several Albanian police officers were among the ten people arrested.

The police also seized devices used for making forgery documents along with 1,000 counterfeit passports from a total of 29 countries, a considerable number of fake seals and five cars. — MNA/Xinhua

British hackers jailed for global computer worm plot

LONDON 9, Oct — Two British hackers were jailed on Friday for helping to spread a computer worm which affected thousands of machines around the world including some at the US Department of Defence.

Jordan Bradley, 22, and Andrew Harvey, 23, were part of an international hacking group called "TH34t Krew" which created the "TK worm", a so-called "Trojan" programme that surfaced on the Internet sometime before February 2003.

Likened to the wooden Trojan Horse of Greek mythology which concealed enemy soldiers, "Trojans" are malicious computer programmes that are disguised as harmless information and can make their way on to a computer over the Internet.

Officers from Bri-

tain's National Hi-Tech Crime Unit (NHTCU) estimated the TK worm caused millions of pounds worth of damage, infecting 18,000 computers around the world.

The programme could also take control of computers it infected.

Newcastle Crown Court jailed electrician Harvey for six months and unemployed Bradley for three months.

The men, both from northern England, had admitted conspiring to "effect unauthorized modifications to the contents of computers with the intent to impair the operation of those computers". British police said that in a separate trial held in the United States in June, 21-year-old Raymond Steigerwalt from Indiana was jailed for 21 months and ordered to pay the Department of

Defence 12,000 US dollars in restitution for his role in the plot. Detective Superintendent Mick Deats, deputy head of the NHTCU, said organized criminals were increasingly using such worms to commit crime over the Internet. Companies are taking the brunt of their

attempts to steal money and data, but consumers are also being hit," he said.

"This year, 166 companies responding to our survey into the cost of hi-tech crime said they had lost over 70 million pounds (124.1 million US dollars) to viruses, worms or Trojans."

MNA/Reuters

Music is good for the heart

NEW YORK, 9 Oct — A new study shows that listening to music that has a slow or meditative tempo has a relaxing effect on people, slowing their breathing and heart rate, whereas listening to faster music with a more upbeat tempo has the opposite effect — speeding up respiration and heart rate.

The results, which appear in the journal *Heart*, support a growing body of research on the potential stress-reducing health benefits of music.

Other research has shown that music can alleviate stress, improve athletic performance, improve movement in neurologically impaired patients with stroke or Parkinson's disease, and even boost milk production in cattle, Dr Peter

Sleight from the University of Oxford in Britain and colleagues note in their report.

In the current study, researchers monitored breathing rate, blood pressure and other heart and respiratory indexes, in 24 healthy young men and women, before and while listening to short excerpts of different kinds of music including slow and fast classical music of differing complexities and rap

music. They also monitored the subjects during two-minute musical intermissions.

Half of the subjects were trained musicians; the other half had no musical training.

The investigators report that listening to mu-

sic initially produced varying levels of arousal — accelerated breathing, increased blood pressure and heart rate — that is directly proportional to the tempo of the music and perhaps the complexity of the rhythm.

MNA/Reuters

Polar satellite crashes into sea

MOSCOW, 9 Oct — A European satellite designed to measure how fast the polar ice caps are melting crashed into the Arctic Ocean after its launch went wrong, the Russian agency that launched it was quoted as saying on Saturday.

The European Space Agency's *Cryosat* satellite was launched from the Plesetsk Cosmodrome in northern Russia but failed to establish communication at the scheduled time.

"We believe the satellite ... fell where the second rocket stage is supposed to fall, that is in the Lincoln Sea, near the North Pole," *ITAR-TASS* news agency quoted Russian Space Troops official Oleg Gromov as say-

ing. European Space Agency spokesman Franco Bonacina said ground stations did not see if the rocket's third stage fired to put the satellite into the correct orbit. "We don't really know what's happening right now," he told *Reuters*. The satellite was launched at about 1500 GMT on Saturday on board a *Rokot* launcher, which is a converted inter-continental ballistic missile. — MNA/Reuters

Quake rocks Indonesia's Aceh

JAKARTA, 9 Oct — A tectonic quake measuring 5.8 on the Richter Scale rocked Aceh Singkil District, Aceh Province of Indonesia, at about 11:30 am local time on Saturday.

The tremor was also felt in Gunung Sitoli, Nias and Sibolga, North Sumatra, said official news agency *Antara*. An official of the Meteorological and Geophysics Office for First Territory of North Sumatra, Hartono, said the epicentre of the quake was in Sumatra Island's western coast or about 15 kilometres from Aceh Singkil.

He said the quake was laid at 2.2 degrees Northern Latitude and 97.7 degrees Eastern Longitude. A strong tectonic quake measuring 8.7 on the Richter Scale, which triggered lethal tidal waves devastated coastal areas of Aceh on December 26, 2004, killing over 200,000 people. — MNA/Xinhua



Children perform Chinese Kong Fu in a park in Luoyang, Central China's Henan Province on 7 October, 2005. The performance was part of the activities to celebrate the National Day.

INTERNET

Countering criticism against Myanmar

Kyaw Myint Naing

On the 13th of last month, BBC and VOA aired that US State Secretary Condoleza Rice criticized the Myanmar Foreign Affairs Minister, saying that Myanmar was following the wrong road concerning democracy and human rights. According to the two radio stations, she made the criticism when she met ASEAN foreign ministers on the sidelines of the 60th UN conference.

Her criticism is nothing strange to us. The West group led by the US government is trying to reverse the process of Myanmar's democracy transition, saying what is right as wrong, and what is wrong as right. The group always mentions the endeavours of the Myanmar government as wrong deeds, while unconditionally supporting all the acts of anti-government elements opposing and attacking the Tatmadaw government describing them to be correct deeds to crush dictatorship and realize democracy.

In accord with its view, the group is unjustly supporting political and economic sanctions with the intention of causing economic hardships that will be followed by confrontations, defiance, commotion and anarchy in the nation. Moreover, its unjust actions are aimed at disrupting national peace and stability and national reconsolidation.

The Tatmadaw government has to take actions against the persons who hold talks or publish letters opposing the state as their acts are endangering national peace and stability and national reconsolidation, and are against the existing laws. But the anti-government elements have accused the government's actions as violation of democracy and human rights.

Based on the view, the west group and the elements are demanding the transfer of power according to the 1990 election results, in the absence of a constitution, organizing the whole world to justify their acts.

Myanmar fell victim to colonialist rule, manipulation and exploitation for 123 years. The country was reduced to near ashes due to World War II that spilled into the nation, and Fascist occupation for three years, during which the people were in poverty. As the nation faced over 40 years of internal insurgency, it fell back into backwardness as an agricultural country. In 1962, it adopted the centralized economic system and single party system.

As the nation was in a state of decline in

1988, the Tatmadaw government took over the State duties in that year, and since then it has opened the way for the flourishing of market economy and multi-party democracy in the nation. It also laid down the economic objective — Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well — and is making utmost efforts for development of farming and industries.

Thanks to the endeavours of the Tatmadaw government during the 17-year period, the nation now put 2.8 million more acres under monsoon paddy and 1.94 million more acres under summer paddy, and her total paddy output reached over one billion baskets in 2005, up from 653 million baskets in 1988.

The nation now cultivates 6,556,320 acres of beans and pulses, 353,854 acres of cotton, 227,644 acres of sugarcane, 66,625 acres of jute, 363,159 acres of maize, 10,406 acres of buckwheat, 298,257 acres of rubber, 119,390 acres of oil palm, 49,575 acres of tea, 58,677 acres of pepper, 6,882 acres of coffee, and 1,905,795 acres of edible oil crops including acres of groundnut, sesame, sunflower, mustard, and niger. Its farming sector has raised 408,000 buffaloes, 1,828,000 cattle, 726,000 goats and sheep, 41,000 mythun, 167,603 acres of fish and 207,606 acres of prawn.

The nation has set up 1,222,343 acres of forest plantations, 112,405 acres of special teak plantations, 451,042 acres of economic plantations, 270,224 acres of village fire wood plantations, 112,405 acres of trees for industrial use, 248,672 acres of watershed plantations and 19,250 acres of thiseint.

Concerning the industrial sector, the nation has seen the establishment of 18 industrial zones, 8,463 industries, 15,830 private industries, 8,500 cottage industries, and 192 State-owned industries.

Three offshore oil fields are producing 229,847 barrels of oil and 329,048.33 cubic-feet of natural gas. A total of 74,335 more million gallons of crude oil is being refined.

Myanmar has built 4,736 new post-primary schools, 892 new middle schools, 1220 new high schools, 76 institutions of higher learning, two new technological universities, 25 technological colleges, two computer universities, 24 computer colleges, one Aerospace Engineering University, 10 technical institutes and three new technical high schools.

The health sector has seen 188 new hospitals, specialist hospitals, two teaching hospitals, four 300-bed hospitals, 14 200-bed hospitals, five 100-bed hospitals, 21 50-bed hospitals, 60 25-bed hospitals, 150 station hospitals, 135 rural health care centres, 12 traditional medicine hospitals, 148 traditional medicine clinics.

Myanmar is now totally free from small pox and polio and is in the process of totally wiping out leprosy. Rural mortality rate decreased to 7.1 from 9.9 per 1000, and urban mortality rate to 6.2 from 8.9 per 1000.

In rural areas, life expectancy for man increased from 56.2 years to 60.82 and woman from 60.4 to 62.32; and in urban areas life expectancy for man rose from 59 to 61.5 and woman from 63.2 to 65.6. The government also opened ten more universities in the medical field and 17 new nurses training schools.

All those developments in various sectors are the results of the Tatmadaw government's endeavours to fulfil the social needs, that are the actual human rights for Myanmar, of the 54 million people of the nation.

The government permitted the formation of political parties in Myanmar in 1988 for flourishing of democracy. It held an election in 1990. As there was oppositions to the government's efforts to draft a constitution to realize the election results, it held the National Convention in 1993. As there was opposition to the National Convention, the election results became nullified as 17 years had already passed.

The government announced the seven-point Road Map on 30 August 2003. The National Convention was reconvened on 17 May 2004 and 12 February 2005. Thanks to the Tatmadaw's endeavours, the nation now is in the process of transition to democracy.

The Tatmadaw made peace with the 17 armed groups and restored national consolidation, peace and stability. And these peace endeavours are also included in the government's practical efforts for enabling 54 million people to enjoy social needs, longevity, peace, human rights and democracy.

The criticism of Rice, saying that Myanmar was following the wrong path in connection with human rights and democracy issues in reality is against the objective conditions. The aim of the neo-colonialists of the West group is the transfer of power to the NLD, to demand the Tatmadaw to return to the barracks, and to topple the Tatmadaw government while naming it a dictatorship.

On the other hand they are viewing the perpetration of their lackeys as human rights and democracy activities. Thus their accusations in reality are lopsided slanders against the Tatmadaw government.

(Translation: TMT)
Kyemon:9-10-2005

The neo-colonialists of the West group are viewing the perpetration of their lackeys as human rights and democracy activities. Thus their accusations in reality are lopsided slanders against the Tatmadaw government.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein attends donation ceremony for six monasteries...

(from page 1)
Maj-Gen Mya Win of the Ministry of Defence and officials accepted donations from wellwishers. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Narindabhivamsa delivered a sermon, and

the Secretary-1 and party shared merits gained. Today's donations for six monasteries in Pazundaung and Botahtaung Townships were as follows; 310 bags of rice, 64 viss of

edible oil, 115 viss of gram, 641 viss of iodized salt, 128 tubes of tooth paste, 8,550 bottles of traditional medicines, 641 bars of soap, 641 cakes of soft soap, 420 viss of dry fish, 1,080 packets of chilli powder, 36 dozens of exercise books and 15 bottles of fish sauce. **MNA**



Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun, Vice-Adjutant General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and Colonel General Staff (Air) Col Nay Win offer cash and provisions to a Sayadaw. —MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts cash donation from a wellwisher at the ceremony of provisions and cash to Sayadaws in Botahtaung Township.— MNA

Commander inspects construction of new Goktwin bridge in Nawngkhio

YANGON, 9 Oct — Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing inspected construction of new Goktwin reinforced concrete bridge on Nawngkhio-Hsipaw Road Section in Nawngkhio Township on 7 October.

The commander instructed officials to maintain the old bridge during the construction tasks of the new one.

Engineer in-charge U Chit Tun of Asia World Co Ltd reported to the commander on construc-

tion tasks and requirements. The commander attended to the needs and oversaw steel road guards. The new bridge will be 170 feet by 42 feet including three feet wide pedestrian ways on either side. The bridge can withstand 60-ton loads. Next, the com-

mander inspected thriving of seven acres paddy field of Nawngkhio Township General Administration Department, 15 acres paddy field of local farmer U Aik Lu in Hsamsei Village and 50 acres of paddy and sticky rice fields of the local battalion. —MNA

Objectives of 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

- To vitalize patriotism and nationalism;
- To preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage;
- To perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts;
- To preserve Myanmar national character;
- To nurture spiritual development of the youths;
- To prevent influence of alien culture; and
- To strengthen national unity and Union Spirit.

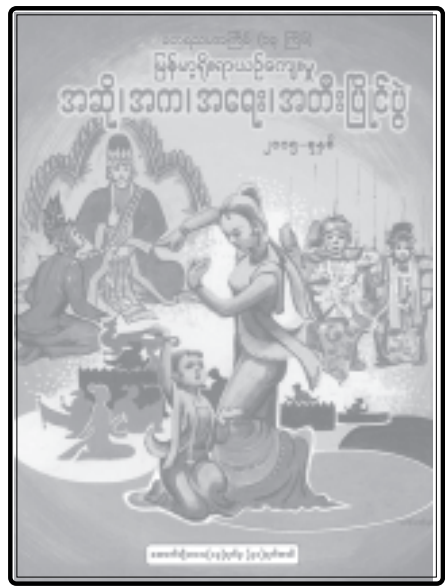
Deputy Minister inspects installation of natural gas pipeline in Pyay Taungtan Oilfield

YANGON, 9 Oct — Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay gave instructions on boosting production of oil and natural gas to officials at Pyay Taungtan Oilfield yesterday afternoon. Next, the deputy minister inspected installation of Kwayma-Seiktha natural gas pipeline crossing Ayeyawady River. Officials reported on matters related to the pipeline and flow of water in the river. The deputy minister instructed them to carry out timely completion of the tasks and attended to their needs. CEC member of the Union Solidarity and

Development Association Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay attended the annual general meeting of Thayawady District USDA at its office. He presented prizes to the outstanding students in the matriculation exam for 2004-05 academic year. The secretary of the District USDA accepted cash donations for public welfare tasks from the wellwishers. Next, the CEC member accepted 9,030 membership applications presented by the Monyo Township USDA Secretary. Later, the District USDA Annual General Meeting followed. **MNA**



CEC Member Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay addresses the annual general meeting of Thayawady District USDA. —ENERGY



သတိပေးနို့ဆော်ချက်

၁။ သိတင်းကျွတ်ကာလနှင့် တန်ဆောင်တိုင်ကာလများတွင် ဂြောက်အိုး၊ မီးရှူးနှင့် ခဲများ (ရှူးနိုင်း) ပစ်ဖောက်ခြင်းဖြင့် ပြည်သူများအထိတိတလန်ဖြစ်ခြင်း၊ မသမာ သူများက ရုပ်ရွာ အေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် လုံခြုံရေးကို ထိခိုက်အောင် လုပ်ထုတ်ခြင်း တို့ကြောင့် ဂြောက်အိုး၊ မီးရှူးနှင့် ခဲများ (ရှူးနိုင်း) တို့ ပစ်ဖောက်ခြင်းကို တားမြစ်သင့်သည်။

၂။ ယင်းသို့ တားမြစ်တားသော်လည်း ယမန်နှစ် ၂၀၀၄ ခုနှစ်၊ သိတင်းကျွတ်ကာလနှင့် တန်ဆောင်တိုင်ကာလများတွင် ဂြောက်အိုး၊ မီးရှူးနှင့် ခဲများ (ရှူးနိုင်း) များအား—

(က) ထုတ်လုပ်ရောင်းချသဖြင့် အရေးယူမှု(၂၀၇)မှုတွင် တရားခံ (၂၁၀)ဦးအား အနည်းဆုံးထောင်ဒဏ် (၂)နှစ်မှ အများဆုံး ထောင်ဒဏ် (၃)နှစ်အထိ ချမှတ်အရေးယူခဲ့သည်။

(ခ) ဖောက်ခြင်း၊ ပစ်လွှတ်ခြင်းများပြုလုပ်သဖြင့် အရေးယူမှု (၁၇၇)မှုတွင် တရားခံ (၁၆၀)ဦးအား အနည်းဆုံးထောင်ဒဏ် (၂)နှစ်အထိ ချမှတ်အရေးယူခဲ့သည်။

၃။ သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ ယခုနှစ် ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ် သိတင်းကျွတ်ကာလနှင့် တန်ဆောင်တိုင်ကာလများတွင် ဂြောက်အိုး၊ မီးရှူးနှင့် ခဲများ (ရှူးနိုင်း) များအား ထုတ်လုပ်ရောင်းချခြင်း၊ ပစ်ဖောက်ခြင်းများ ပြုလုပ်ပါက ယခင်နှစ်များနည်းတူ အောက်ပါအတိုင်းအရေးယူသွားမည် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း သတိပေး နို့ဆော်အပ်ပါသည်။

(က) ထုတ်လုပ်ခြင်း၊ ရောင်းချခြင်းများပြုလုပ်ပါက တည်ဆဲဥပဒေအရ အများဆုံး ထောင်ဒဏ်အထိ ချမှတ်မည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

(ခ) ပစ်လွှတ်သည့်နေရာမှ အနီးအဝေး အနိမ့်နှင့် အမြင့် တို့တွင် ပေါက်ကွဲစေ တတ်သော ဂြောက်အိုး၊ မီးရှူးနှင့် ခဲများ (ရှူးနိုင်း) ဖောက်လွှတ် တည်ဆဲ ဥပဒေအရ အများဆုံးထောင်ဒဏ်အထိ ချမှတ်မည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

(ဂ) သတင်းပေးသည့် ထိုက်တန်စွာဆုံးပေးမည်။

ရန်ကင်းတိုင်းအေးချမ်းသာယာရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးကောင်စီ

Tatmadaw families, wellwishers offer alms to three monasteries, Thanatana Dhammapalaka Hindu Organization in Pabedan, Seikkan Townships



Maj-Gen Myint Swe and the congregation receive Five Precepts from members of Sangha from three monasteries in Pabedan and Seikkan Townships. —MNA

YANGON, 9 Oct — Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated alms and cash to three monasteries in Pabedan and Seikkan Townships and Thanatana Dhammapalaka Hindu Organization in Pabedan Township this afternoon.

The ceremony

held at Maha Ordination Hall in Pabedan Township was attended by Presiding Nayaka of Theindawgyi Monastery Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kumara and Sayadaws of Mon Pariyatti and Ponnyathukha Monastery in Seikkan Township, members of the Sangha, Chairman of Yangon Di-

vision Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, deputy ministers, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, departmental heads and local authorities, social organizations and

wellwishers. The congregation took the Five Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara. The commander offered robes and alms to the Sayadaw.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, the deputy ministers and senior military officers donated alms to members of the Sangha.

On behalf of the

Maha Theindawgyi Monastery. Next, the commander donated alms of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council to the Sayadaw. Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and officials offered donations of their respective ministries and departments to members of the Sangha. Likewise, wellwishers pre-

congregation shared merits gained.

Today's donations amounted to 103 bags of rice, 167 viss of edible oil, 140 viss of gram, 641 viss of iodized salt, 100 tubes of tooth paste, 10,824 bottles of traditional medicines, 75 litres of fish sauce, 1,080 viss of chilli powder, 60 pac-



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe offers provisions to a Sayadaw. —MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe accepts cash donated by a wellwisher. — MNA

Prize-distribution ceremony of the Performing Arts Competitions of Yangon Division held

YANGON, 9 Oct — The prize-distribution ceremony of the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions of Yangon Division in conjunction with handing over the flag to ensure the success of the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions took place at Saya San Hall in the Kyaikkasan Sports Ground here this morning. It was attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Commander Maj-

Gen Myint Swe handed over flag to Secretary of Committee for ensuring success in the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Major Thein Zaw.

The commander made a speech saying that the participants who the central level competitions were to maintain the past success of the division in conformity with rules and regulations of the competitions.

Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe then presented prizes to the winners of the 13th Myanmar Traditional

Cultural Performing Arts Competitions of Yangon Division and bestowed the prizes on the judges. Next, Chairman of the Committee Lt-Col Nay Myo accepted cash donated by the wellwishers. The participants entertained those present with music and dance. There are 442 artistes from Yangon Division who are going to participate in the performing arts competitions — 153 in professional level, 73 in amateur level, 41 in higher education level and 175 in basic education level.—MNA

Tatmadaw families, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun, Vice Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and Colonel General Staff (Air) (Mechanical) Col Chan Maung presented provisions to the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of

sented offertories to the Sayadaw.

Afterwards, the commander, the minister, the deputy ministers and senior military officers accepted donations from wellwishers. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kumara delivered a sermon, and the

kets of dry noodle, 20 viss of durian jam, 446 bars of soap, one bag of wheat, 15 viss of brown slab-sugar, 10 viss of turmeric, 30 pictures of Kyaikhtiyoe pagoda, various kinds of steel wares, and K 7,746,369.

MNA



Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun, Vice-Adjutant General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe and Colonel General Staff (Air) (Mechanical) Col Chan Maung offer provisions to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Earthquake claims at least one in Afghanistan

KABUL, 9 October — A child was killed as a strong earthquake rattled parts of Afghanistan Saturday morning, authorities confirmed.

“An 11-year-old girl has lost her life as a roof caved in on her in Surkhrood District of eastern Nangarhar Province in the tremor,” a senior official in provincial police department Ghafoor Khan told *Xinhua*.

He also added that a number of mud houses collapsed in the neighbouring Kama District but left no casualties. The tremble, strongly shook eastern parts of Afghanistan, was also felt in the north and northeast Balkh, Kunduz, Baghlan, Badakhshan and Takhar provinces but caused no loss on life.

“Every thing is in order and we have not received any report of casualties so far,” Interior Ministry spokesman Yusuf Stanikzai told *Xinhua*.

Backing his information, authorities in the north and northeast provinces have confirmed zero casualties except minor damage to mud houses in these areas.

According to Hong Kong Observatory, the epicenter was initially determined to be 34.4 north Latitude and 73.5 east Longitude, about 100 kilometres northeast of Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan.

MNA/Xinhua

First World Hospice Palliative Care Day commemorated



Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa speaking at seventh founding anniversary of the Hospice of U Hla Tun Mitta Yeikmon (Cancer) Foundation.—MNA

YANGON, 9 Oct — The First World Hospice Palliative Care Day was

commemorated in conjunction with the seventh founding anniversary of the Hospice of U Hla Tun Mitta Yeikmon (Cancer) Foundation at the Sedona Hotel today.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, ambassadors, charges d' affaires and officials of foreign embassies in Yangon, officials of WHO Resident

Representative's office, chairman and secretary of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Chairman U Hla Tun and members of U Hla Tun Mitta Yeikmon (Cancer) Foundation, doctors, donors, guests and nurses and staff of the foundation.

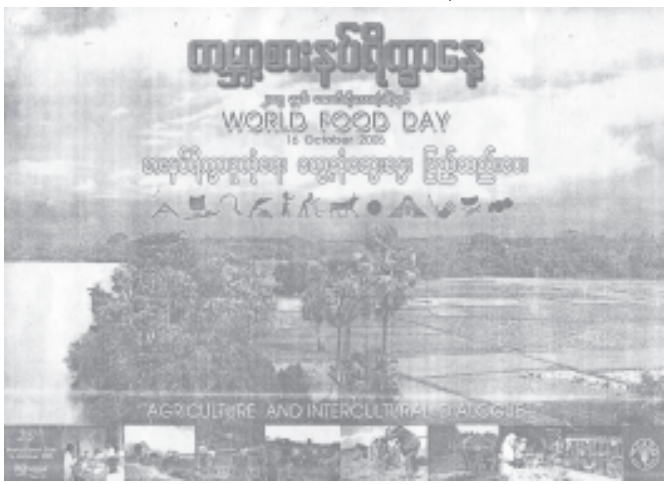
First, Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa spoke on the occasion and U Hla Tun explained the purpose of the celebration. Ms Ingela Johansson also gave a speech.

Next, U Hla Tun briefed those present on background history and objectives of the foundation and functions of the hospice with the aid of power point.

Then followed a cash donation ceremony for the foundation. Donations included K 10 million by Dr Daw Khin Khin Yi and family; K 500,000 by the Union Solidarity and Development Association; K 500,000 by Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo and wife Daw Ni Ni Win and son cadet Thein Zaw Nyo; K 100,000 by Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw

Hsan and family; K 1 million by Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Aye Myat Nwe of Bagan Hotel; K 300,000 by Crist Lite Myanmar Ltd; K 500,000 by U Thein Tun; K 200,000 by Major Tin Aung (Retd)-Prof Dr Daw Cho Lay Mar, K K 100,000 by Chairman U Aye Thant of Free Funeral Service Association; K 3 million by Cooperative Bank Ltd; K 1 million plus 800 FECs by Myanmar Daewoo Ltd; K 200,000 each by MRH Development Co and Myanmar Atalantics Co; K 100,000 each by U Nyan Soe Moe, U Soe Aung Kyaw, U Tun Aye, Col Aung Win (Retd) and staff of U Hla Tun Group; K 50,000 each by Myanmar Carbonix Co and Daw Thandar Khaing, K 40,000 each by staff of the hospice and patients; 300 FECs by Myanmar Lsglufthnsa Service; and 100 US\$ by Mr Philip Dues. The donors were presented with certificates of honour.

Later, the ceremony came to a close with concluding remarks by U Hla Tun. — MNA



World Postal Day observed



Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw presents prize to a winner in International Youth Letter Writing Contest (Local Level).—MNA

YANGON, 9 Oct — A ceremony to mark the World Postal Day which falls on 9 October 2005 took place at Telecommunications and Postal Training Centre in Pazundaung Township this afternoon. Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw presented awards to outstand-

ing students in the International Youth Letter Writing Contest (Local Level). Present at the ceremony were Vice-Chairman U Aung Myint of e-National Task Force, officials from Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs and Ministry of Education, members of the panel of judges,

guests and students.

Director-General U Tin Htwe of Directorate of Telecommunications extended greetings.

Staff Officer U Than Tun Aung read out the message sent by the Director-General of Universal Postal Union.

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw presented

awards to Maung Kaung Sithu (Yankin BEHS No 2) who stood first in the 34th U-15 International Youth Letter Writing Contest (Local Level) entitled “A Letter to My Favourite Fairytale Character”, Ma Zun Oo Hlaing (Nyaunglebin BEMS) second, and Ma Eint Honey Tun (Bogale BEHS No 1) third. Director-General U Tin Htwe of Directorate of Telecommunications and Director-General U Bo Win of Department of Education Planning and Training presented consolation prizes and awards to outstanding students.

Officer on Special Duty Col Win Maung and officials presented gifts to members of the panel of judges. Honorary Prof U Than Htut of the Ministry of Education explained matters of scrutinization for the contest.

MNA



Editor U Myint Aung Tun of MNA (External) and Head of Branch (News) U Aung Myaing of NPE seen at the airport before departure for China on Sunday. — MNA

Spain offers emergency aid to hurricane-hit Guatemala, El Salvador

MADRID, 9 Oct — Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos said on Friday that Spain will provide humanitarian relief to Guatemala and El Salvador which have been hit hard by Hurricane Stan.

The Foreign Ministry issued a communique on Friday, saying Moratinos held on Thursday separate telephone conversations with his Guatemalan and Salvadorean counterparts Jorge Briz and Francisco Lainez, extending them “the solidarity and sympathy” of his government and the people of Spain.

The embassies of Spain in Guatemala and El Salvador did not have reports about any casualties among Spanish citizens, the communique added.

According to other reports, Spanish non-governmental organizations (NGO) have started to gather assistance for the victims of Hurricane Stan in Central America. The Red Cross has already sent 28,800 US dollars to be equally distributed in the two countries for purchasing emergency materials.

In Guatemala, the Spanish International Cooperation Agency (AECI) under the Foreign Ministry will acquire through its technical cooperation office in that country necessary materials valued at 50,000 euros (60,000 dollars) to help meet the basic needs of the Stan victims. The AECI also sent about a 100,000-euro (120,000-US-dollar) disbursement to the Salvadorean Red Cross to buy cooking gear, sanitary kits and food for families in need.

Coordinator of “Hands United in Central America” Project Waldo Fernandez told the media that the general situation did not seem to be as critical as in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina or Mitch, but in some cases was even worse as mudslides destroyed crops and stored grain. The Madrid town council also said that a contingent of “Firemen Without Borders” had departed for Guatemala with a field hospital and rescue dogs to help those affected by the hurricane. — MNA/Xinhua

Three charged over break-in at Tiffany’s in London

LONDON, 9 Oct — British police charged three men on Friday with trying to ram raid Tiffany’s jewellers in central London in a failed heist which left one suspected thief dead when he was run over by detectives during a high speed chase.

The gang are accused of trying to drive a 4x4 vehicle through one of the windows of the exclusive Sloane Square store on Thursday.

The raid was thwarted as plain-clothes police officers had been lying in wait outside after a tip-off following a series of smash and grab raids in the area. One of the suspected robbers was killed and another left critically ill after they were struck by an unmarked police car when they fell from a moped in an ensuing chase. Three other suspects were later apprehended by detectives. The men, James Nicholson, 19, Anthony Bates, 48, and Nicolas Walters, 20, have been charged with aggravated burglary, police said on Friday. — MNA/Reuters



Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint attends sales of gems lots at 2005 Mid-Year Myanma Gems Emporium. (News on page 16) — MNA

British police arrest 10 in terrorist probe

LONDON, 9 Oct — British police arrested 10 men in three different parts of the country on Saturday as part of an investigation into suspected international terrorism, a police statement said.

“Three men were arrested in the Croydon area of south London, four in Wolverhampton and three in Derby,” London’s Scotland Yard po-

lice service said. It said the investigation was separate from the probe into July’s London bomb attacks.

“At approximately 4

am (0300 GMT) today police executed warrants at three residential addresses, making a total of 10 arrests, all on suspicion of the commission,

preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism under the Terrorism Act 2000,” police said.

“The arrests were made as the result of an intelligence led investigation involving police and the Security Service (more commonly known as MI5),” the statement said. It did not say what sort of group the police were investigating. Police were still searching the three locations raided, the statement said.

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters

Strong earthquake jolts El Salvador

MEXICO CITY, 9 October — An earthquake measuring 6.2 on the Richter Scale rocked El Salvador on Friday at local time 11:42 am (1742 GMT), according to an official source from the Central American country.

The epicentre of the quake, with a depth of 28 kilometres, was 34 miles (51 kilometres) from the coastal city Barra Salada which is 36.4 miles (55 kilometres) southwest of the capital San Salvador, Director of Territorial Studies National Service Antonio Arenas said.

The quake was felt in San Salvador, with an intensity of four degrees on the modified Mercalli scale.

Interior Minister Rene Figueroa said he saw no material damage following a brief helicopter flight over the quake-stricken area 20 minutes after the hit of the earthquake. But he told people to remain calm and take necessary precautionary measures.

Witnesses said that the quake had sent hundreds of people to the streets in San Salvador.

The quake came after six days of torrential rain that left 67 dead,

mostly children.

Friday’s quake was also felt in the neighbouring Guatemala, where a spokesperson of the state-run National Seismology,

Volcanology, Meteorology and Hydrology Institute said the epicentre was detected in the Pacific Ocean.

MNA/Xinhua

Dutch police arrest suspected computer hackers

AMSTERDAM, 9 Oct — Dutch police have arrested three men suspected of stealing credit card and bank account data by hacking into over 100,000 personal computers worldwide, public prosecutors said on Saturday.

The three Dutch men supposedly used so-called “Trojan Horse” software to infect computers with a virus and steal confidential personal information, and to attack company web

sites, the Public Prosecutor’s Office said in a statement.

“In the Netherlands alone, several thousands of computers were infected,” the statement said.

The three men, aged 19, 22 and 27, were arrested on Tuesday.

The hackers are also accused of plundering accounts in PayPal, the payment-processing business of online auctioneer eBay Inc, and are suspected of threatening to attack the computer system of a US company, the statement said.

The three used a virus, called W32.Toxbot, which allows access to the infected computer’s control system. They kept adapting the virus in line with upgraded anti-virus programmes, prosecutors said. Justice officials expect more arrests in the case, Dutch media said.

MNA/Reuters

Death toll from “Stan” rises to 353 in Guatemala

MEXICO CITY, 9 Oct — Death toll from Hurricane Stan has reached 353 in Guatemala, the country’s disaster reduction body said late Friday in the capital Guatemala City.

The Guatemalan National Disaster Reduction Coordination said 200 more bodies were found in the mud in a village of San Marcos Province near the border with Mexico, raising the total death toll to 353.

Guatemalan President Oscar Berger has cancelled a trip to Spain for the 14th Ibero-American Summit because of the disaster.

The President said on Friday after inspecting the devastated areas that more than 4,400 houses had been flooded and up to 178,000 people had fallen victim to the hurricane.

Guatemala declared a state of “public disaster” on Wednesday after huge damage caused by Stan, which reached Category One on the 5-category Saffir-Simpson scale. Guatemala is the worst-hit country by Hurricane Stan, which has killed 453 people in southern Mexico and Central America.

MNA/Xinhua



Foreign and local surfers hold hands during a ceremony to honour the victims of bomb blasts at Jimbaran on the Indonesian resort island of Bali on 8 Oct, 2005. —INTERNET

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နိုင်ငံခြားငွေဖြင့် ချိပ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

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Wyeth (a Delaware (USA) corporation) of Five Giralda Farms, Madison, New Jersey 07940-0874, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-
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in respect of "Pharmaceutical preparations for treating cancer and diseases and disorders of the central nervous systems; anti-inflammatory pharmaceutical preparations all in class 5".
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Win Mu Tin M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L. for Wyeth P. O. Box 60, Yangon Dated: 10 October 2005

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Avilages Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales, at Greenham Hatchery, Gonerby Moor, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG32 2AB, United Kingdom are the proprietors of the following trademark in several countries of the world including Myanmar.
[Image of a bird logo with 'R']
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The aforesaid trademark is being used by the above party in respect of "Live animals; live poultry; live turkey's and chicks; live chickens and live chicken chicks; live hatching eggs; live poultry for breeding and growing; animal feed" in class 31.
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Htein Lin Oo (LL.B) Advocate MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM Tel:294037 G.P.O Box:606 Yangon. 10 October, 2005

DONATE BLOOD

Ten Ugandan soldiers die in traffic accident

KAMPALA, 8 Oct—About 10 soldiers from the Ugandan Army's Second Division died and more than 40 others were injured on Thursday morning when their vehicle overturned. Radio Uganda reported.
The state radio quoted military sources as saying that the soldiers were leaving the barracks for Independence Day parade practice at Kakyeka Stadium in the southern city of Mbarara when the driver lost control overturning the truck on the main road. The Army's Second Division is based in Mbarara. Uganda's Independence Day falls on 9 October.
MNA/Xinhua



A municipal worker cleans up garbage left behind by the receding Rio Negro River, one of the two biggest tributaries of the Amazon River, as boats remain stranded during the region's worst drought in decades, in the port of Manaus, capital of Brazil's Amazonas State, on 7 Oct, 2005.

EU says surprised by US stance on Airbus aid

BRUSSELS, 8 Oct—The European Commission has expressed surprise at the US Government's swift rejection of a move that Europe said could ease a transatlantic dispute over state subsidies for aircraft makers.
Planemaker Airbus on Thursday said it would delay using European state loans to help fund a new jet liner, the A350. The plane is designed to compete with the 787 Dreamliner of US manufacturer Boeing.
But a spokeswoman for the US Trade Representative's office in Washington said it would take "no comfort from any of-
fer to postpone the actual payment of the launch aid" and the financing costs of Airbus would be reduced by the commitment of European governments to the project.
In a reply to that statement, issued late on Thursday, a spokesman for European Trade Commission Peter Mandelson said the position of Airbus and the Commission was that European government funding of Airbus would be adapted to comply with any agreement reached on aid between the United States and the EU.
"In these circumstances, and given the continuing subsidies available to Boeing for the launch of the 787, the statement of the USTR is surprising," spokesman Peter Power said in the statement. "We will make contact in order to find out what exactly lies behind the USTR statement." Mandelson is due to meet US Trade Representative Rob Portman on Monday in Switzerland for talks, also involving trade officials from around the world, on progress towards a global trade deal at the WTO in December.
Airbus, owned by aerospace group EADS and Britain's BAE Systems, has applied for a third of the A350's 4.3-billion-euro (5.2-billion-US-dollar) development budget in government loans, in a move which it says accords with 1992 transatlantic agreement on aerospace industry aid.
But Washington says the loans would give it an unfair edge against Boeing which it denies is subsidized too.
Both sides made first moves this year in what could become the World Trade Organization's biggest ever trade dispute.
MNA/PTI

Express giant expands HK investment

HONG KONG, 8 Oct—DHL, the world's leading express and logistics company, on Thursday announced an additional 110-million-US-dollar investment to expand its express cargo facility at Hong Kong International Airport.
The money will be used to upgrade operational capability and double the size of DHL's Central Asia Hub to meet the business growth in the region, especially in China, sources with the company said.
It aims at providing the fastest, most reliable and safest service strategically positioned for us to meet the growth in intra-Asia as well as inter-regional trade. It also plays a critical role as a gateway to the Pearl River Delta, which accounts for 40 per cent of China's exports. The company said over 70 per cent of DHL's China-in and out-bound shipments are through the Hub in Hong Kong.
In 2004, the Hub handled over 22 million shipments, over 60 per cent of which were intra-Asia shipments. In 2005, the Hub will handle more than 30

India always "helpful" towards Iran

NEW DELHI, 8 Oct—Maintaining that India has always taken a "helpful" stand on issues concerning Iran, External Affairs Minister K Natwar Singh on Friday said both countries have a responsibility to play a role in ensuring peace and prosperity in the region and in the world.
"It has been India's endeavour to forge mutually beneficial links with Iran in a manner consistent with our national interests," Singh said after releasing a book titled "Iran Today: Twenty-Five Years after the Islamic Revolution", edited by veteran diplomat M H Ansari here.
The minister's remarks came close on the heels of

Colombian mudslide sweeps away homes, kills 26

BOGOTA (Colombia), 8 Oct—An avalanche of mud and water killed at least 26 people and left 30 unaccounted for when a river broke its banks and washed away mountainside homes near the Colombian town of Bello, authorities said on Friday.
Civil defence and Red Cross rescue workers were trying to find survivors and bodies in the mud-choked wreckage of 15 homes, said the mayor's office in the Antioquia Province town.
The dead from the Thursday night mudslide included an unspecified number of children. At least 20 people were injured. rby schoolhouse used as an emergency hostel where they gathered with their few remaining possessions.—MNA/Reuters

India supporting the IAEA resolution against Iran's controversial nuclear programme. Teheran came out strongly against the resolution that set the stage for a possible reference of the issue to the UN Security Council.
New Delhi later clarified that its action was in Iran's interest and that it had negotiated hard to prevent the issue from being immediately sent to the UNSC.
"History is proof that contradictions are best resolved by engagement and dialogue and cooperative effort of the concerned parties with a view to sincerely implement the commitments made," Singh said.
The minister said given the cultural links between India and Iran, the shared identity and security imperatives, "our two countries have a responsibility to play in ensuring peace

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Study shows painkillers cut risk of mouth cancer

LONDON, 8 Oct— Commonly used painkillers can reduce the risk of mouth cancer in smokers but long-term use could raise the odds of dying from heart disease, Norwegian scientists said on Friday.

The painkillers, known as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or NSAIDs, halved the odds of developing mouth cancer in a study of nearly 500 smokers. The effect was comparable to quitting smoking.

However, the drugs did not increase overall survival because the patients had a higher risk of dying of cardiovascular disease.

“These findings highlight the need for a careful risk-benefit analysis when the long-term use of NSAIDs is considered,” Dr Jon Sudbo, of the Norwegian Radium Hospital in Oslo, said in the report in *The Lancet* medical journal.

Commonly used NSAIDs include ibuprofen and naproxen, which is sold over-the-counter by Bayer as Aleve. Newer painkillers known as COX-2 inhibitors, including Merck’s Vioxx, have been linked to a risk of heart attacks and strokes.

Merck withdrew Vioxx from the market in September, 2004, following safety concerns.

NSAIDs work by suppressing two enzymes called COX-1 and COX-2. However, they can cause gastrointestinal bleeding. COX-2 inhibitors were designed to limit the damage.

Sudbo and his team compared the use of NSAIDs on 454 heavy smokers with oral cancer and an equal number of smokers who did not have cancer. Just over 263 people in the study had used NSAIDs.

The researchers said NSAIDs cut the risk of oral cancer by 53 per cent in smokers. However, 42 per cent of people who took the drugs died of cardiovascular disease, compared with 7 per cent in the group that did not use NSAIDs. Sudbo said oral cancer prevention studies which will shed more light on the risks and benefits of the drugs are planned or under way.

In the United States alone, nearly 30,000 people are diagnosed with cancer of the mouth, lips or part of the throat or back of the mouth, according to the National Cancer Institute. Smoking cigarettes, cigars or pipes and chewing tobacco account for most oral cancers. People who drink alcohol also have a higher risk of the disease than those who don’t.

“Over the next few years, these trials will determine whether NSAIDs can reduce the devastating effect of oral cancer on patients, their families and public health,” he added. — MNA/Reuters



A Thai-Chinese Buddhist devotee walks over hot coal during the annual Vegetarian Festival in Phuket Province, about 690 km (429 miles) southwest of Bangkok, on 8 October, 2005.—INTERNET

British teen bully jailed for life for father’s murder

LONDON, 8 Oct— A British teenager who stabbed a father through the heart when he tried to stand up for his bullied son was jailed for life on Friday.

Marcus Gabadan, 16, stabbed the 35-year-old father through the heart after he accosted him and another youth outside the family’s home in London in December 2004.

“It is a tragedy that a father cannot go out of his home in this day and age to remonstrate with a bully and not find himself dead,” said Judge James Stewart, who lifted a reporting restriction banning the publication of the killer’s name.

“This was a gratuitous, unprovoked attack on a man who was trying to stop his son being bullied.” Stewart recommended Gabadan serve a minimum of 10 years. For three days the dead man’s son 13-year-old, who like his father cannot be named to protect his identity, refused to give into bullies’ demands to hand over a Playstation 2 soccer game and to steal 20 pounds from his mother’s purse.

MNA/Reuters



Shenzhou VI, a spaceship to carry two astronauts into orbit, sits atop of the LM-2F carrier rocket at the launching pad in Jiuquan satellite launch center in northwest China on 7 October, 2005. It is widely reported that China’s second manned spaceship will be launched on 13 October.—INTERNET

France bids to cool trade row as “A350” nears launch

PARIS, 8 Oct — Planemaker Airbus looked set on Thursday to win shareholder backing to start building its new A350 as France said controversial European state loans opposed by Washington had been approved in principle but put on hold.

Industry sources said proposals to take the new jet off the drawing board and build it at a cost of 4.3 billion euros (5.18 billion US dollars) were on the agenda for board talks on Thursday at European aerospace group EADS, which owns 80 per cent of Airbus. BAE Systems owns the rest.

The decision is seen as crucial for stormy trade relations between the European and the United States, which have clashed at the World Trade Organization over mutual allegations that Airbus and its arch-rival Boeing are unfairly subsidized.

The A350 is at the centre of what threatens to become a record trade dispute since Airbus has applied for 1.3 billion euros in loans

from the four countries where it has most of its operations — Britain, France, Germany and Spain — to build it.

Trade analysts warn that committing to build the plane with government money up front could exacerbate the dispute. But a French minister said that while France and the other three governments had agreed in principle to offer repayable development loans for the A350, they had also agreed not to pay anything immediately to allow time for talks in the subsidy row. “We want a true negotiation between Europe and the United States... The implementation of this future aid will not be immediate,” Transport Minister Dominique Perben said.

MNA/Reuters

Boy George arrested in New York on drug charges

NEW YORK, 8 Oct — Singer Boy George was arrested in New York on Friday for suspicion of possessing cocaine after he called police to report a burglary at his apartment in Little Italy, police said.

The singer, whose real name is George O’Dowd and who made his name with the 1980s pop band Culture Club, called police early Friday morning to report a burglary. But when police arrived a little after 3 a.m. the officers found the door open and were greeted by the singer who asked them, “What’s up?”

Police spokesman Det Eric Crisafi said the singer then staggered about his apartment apparently in “a drugged stupor” and police found a small amount of cocaine next to his computer.

The singer was held at a New York police station before being transferred on Friday to Manhattan Criminal Court for arraignment on drug possession charges as well as for falsely reporting a burglary.

It was unclear what prison term, if any, he faces since police said they have yet to determine with precision what quantity of drugs may have been in his apartment. George’s musical “Taboo” closed in New York last year after losing money. The musical was an autobiographical look at a time when flamboyant cross-dressers reigned in London clubs and Culture Club topped pop charts around the world.

The son of an Irish builder, George rose from supermarket shelf-stocker to glitzy pop millionaire.

He became an international star in 1982 with “Do You Really Want to Hurt Me?” The song topped hit parades in 18 countries and Culture Club went on to sell almost 20 million albums.— MNA/Reuters



Vehicles pass through the No3 Yangtze River Bridge in Nanjing, capital of East China’s Jiangsu Province, as it was opened on 7 Oct, 2005. The nearly five-kilometres (three-miles) cross river bridge was designed to ease the traffic jam in the Yangtze River delta zone.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Italy qualify with 1-0 win over Slovenia

PALERMO (Sicily), 9 Oct— Italy qualified for next year's World Cup finals after substitute Cristian Zaccardo grabbed a 79th minute winner to beat Slovenia 1-0 in Group Five on Saturday.

The result leaves third-placed Slovenia with no chance of making the play-offs via the runners-up slot as they have a worse head-to-head record against Norway who are three points ahead of them with one match remaining. Italy had created a series of chances throughout a combative game but Slovenian keeper Borut Mavric was in inspired form.

The winner brought double delight for the Sicilian crowd as it was two Palermo players who combined — Fabio Grosso crossing from the left and Zaccardo's diving heading beating Mavric for his first goal for the Azzurri.

Italy striker Luca Toni, who left Palermo for Fiorentina during the close-season, was booed and whistled by the home fans but despite such treatment the tall striker proved a handful for the Slovenian defence all night.

His strike partner Alberto Gilardino had the first chance when he raced through on goal but Mavric robbed the Italy striker as he tried to round him.

Toni then linked-up with Gilardino in the 18th minute with a smart header down to his partner and then providing a touch on Gilardino's shot but Mavric again reacted smartly.

There were some crunching tackles and intense battles in midfield but Italy were creating all the opportunities with Francesco Totti going close with a low 20 metre drive after a sharp turn and run.

During the interval a group of Slovenian fans climbed down on to a corrugated roof separating the first and second tiers and moved in front of the home supporters section but police moved in to stop a potentially dangerous situation escalating. —MNA/Reuters

England beat Austria despite Beckham red card

MANCHESTER (England), 9 Oct— Ten-man England ground out a precious 1-0 World Cup qualifying win over Austria on Saturday despite a red card for captain David Beckham.

Frank Lampard converted a 25th minute penalty to put England's Group Six campaign back on track after last month's humiliating 1-0 defeat by Northern Ireland, but there was controversy on the hour-mark.

Beckham, famously red-carded at the 1998 World Cup against Argentina, became the first England player to be sent off twice with a second yellow at Old Trafford after what looked like a dive by Andreas Ibertsberger following a booking for elbowing the same Austrian midfielder minutes earlier.

England held on for a victory which means they can top the group by beating leaders Poland in Wednesday's final qualifier.

Though Beckham's absence through suspension on Wednesday will be a blow, England will have striker Wayne Rooney back from suspension and can count on Shaun Wright-Phillips as a



Referee Luis Medina Cantalejo shows England captain David Beckham, left, the red card as he sends him off for a second bookable offence during the Group 6 World Cup Qualifying soccer match against Austria at Old Trafford, Manchester, England, on 8 Oct, 2005.—INTERNET

livewire midfield replacement. Manchester United's Rio Ferdinand, initially dropped by manager Sven-Goran Eriksson after some below-par performances, had to replace Sol Campbell following a second-half injury.

England created plenty of chances but will need to be more clinical in their finishing against the Poles, while their clean sheet was offset by a shot against their cross bar which could have turned the game.

Austria, playing with a five-man midfield and Roland Linz as a lone striker, were determined to make England work hard for their chances. But the balance of power soon swung the hosts' way.

Michael Owen had a close-range header blocked from a corner and was only denied a one-on-one with keeper Juergen Macho by a superb last-ditch tackle from Paul

Scharner. The Austrian defender was less fortunate a few minutes later when towering England striker Peter Crouch knocked the ball down and Scharner tugged Owen back as he tried to swivel round.

Spanish referee Luis Medina Cantalejo pointed to the spot and Lampard, who has replaced Beckham as penalty-taker after three consecutive misses by the captain, steered his shot into the bottom left-hand corner. England had another penalty appeal turned down before the break after Owen was felled by Andreas Dober's challenge.

Lampard skewed a stoppage-time shot wide in a strong finish to a half in which Austria's sole chance was a stinging 30-metre shot from midfielder Markus Kiesenebner, tipped over by Paul Robinson.—MNA/Reuters

Torres goals give Spain 2-0 win over Belgium

BRUSSELS, 9 Oct— Two goals in two minutes from Fernando Torres kept Spain firmly in the hunt for a place in the 2006 World Cup with a 2-0 victory over Belgium on Saturday. Victory for Spain against San Marino on Wednesday in their final European zone Group Seven qualifier will guarantee them at least a playoff spot. Belgium's slim hopes were extinguished.

Serbia and Montenegro lead the group with 19 points, two more than Spain and three ahead of Bosnia. The Serbs host Bosnia in Belgrade in their final match on Wednesday. An inspired substitution by Spanish coach Luis Aragones with the introduction of Jose Antonio

Reyes early in the second half turned the game on its head.

The Arsenal attacker had only been on the pitch for a few minutes when he fired in a pin-point diagonal ball for Torres to volley home in the 56th.

The Atletico Madrid striker notched his second two minutes later when he poked home a low cross again from Reyes.

"It is a team effort and we did well. But yes, the substitutions made a difference I think," Reyes told Reuters.

"We will just aim to win on Wednesday and wait and see."

Spanish goalkeeper Iker Casillas said: "In the second half we were better and I am happy also with my own perfor-

mance. We can now build from here."

It was a less than convincing performance by the visitors and Belgium were unlucky not to be ahead at the break.

—MNA/Reuters



Sania Mirza of India returns a forehand to Tatiana Golovin of France during the women's singles semi-finals of the AIG Japan Open Tennis Championship 2005 in Tokyo on 8 Oct, 2005. Golovin defeated Mirza 6-2, 6-4 to advance to Sunday's final.—INTERNET

Giggs ends Wales drought in 3-2 win over N Ireland

BELFAST, 9 Oct— Wales secured their first competitive win in more than two years with a 3-2 victory over Northern Ireland in their Group Six World Cup qualifier at Windsor Park on Saturday.

Manchester United winger Ryan Giggs netted the decisive goal with a superb free kick after the home side had fought back from two goals down at the break.

Wales took control with Everton's Simon Davies scoring from 12 metres in the 27th minute and Sunderland midfielder Carl Robison doubling the lead with a volley 10 minutes later.

Robinson's first international goal was neatly set up by Giggs who outran two Northern Ireland players before delivering a left-wing cross that found Robinson eight metres out.—MNA/Reuters

Mutu winner keeps Romania's World Cup hopes alive

HELSINKI, 9 Oct— Romania captain Adrian Mutu kept his side's World Cup qualifying hopes alive with a first-half winner against Finland on Saturday.

The Juventus striker netted with a 41st-minute penalty to give Romania a 1-0 victory in Group One.

Mutu sent Jussi Jaaskelainen the wrong way from the spot after the keeper had fouled Ionut Mazilu.

Romania, who have completed their programme, leapfrogged the Czech Republic into second place with 25 points from 12 matches.

Romania will finish as runners-up ahead of the Czech Republic if the Czechs gain a point or less from their final two games. The Czechs take on leaders the Netherlands in Prague later on Saturday.—MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

1	D	I	S	C	E	R	N	8	M	E	A	N	T
2	U	C	X	A	S	I	G	R					
3	C	O	U	R	T	P	A	C	K	A	G	E	
4	A	T	O	E	R	S	P	P					
5	T	R	A	W	L	E	R	O	M	E	G	A	
6	S	G	S	S	Y	B	S	S	S	N			
7	T	R	E	A	T	Y	S	B	E	L	O	N	G
8	R	S	S	S	H	S	C	S	S	S	P	S	S
9	A	M	B	E	R	S	A	R	T	L	E	S	S
10	N	S	R	S	I	S	N	S	Y	S	N	S	P
11	S	T	A	F	F	E	D	S	R	A	I	S	E
12	I	S	S	T	S	I	S	O	S	N	S	E	
13	T	A	S	T	Y		D	E	L	U	G	E	D

Bangladesh floods kill 16, damage crops

DHAKA, 9 Oct — Floods in northern Bangladesh have killed 16 people, damaged crops and infrastructure and marooned more than 1.5 million people over the past four days, government officials said on Saturday.



An Indian man walks past debris of a collapsed house following an earthquake in Amritsar, in the northern state of Punjab, on 8 Oct, 2005. —INTERNET

The victims died crushed in collapsed houses or from drowning or snake bites as rivers burst their banks following torrential rains.

"The torrents washed away some 100,000 mud-walled houses, making at least half a million homeless in the region," a disaster management official told Reuters.

One-third of the homeless had taken refuge in government shelters or on high ground, he said.

The flooding damaged rice and vegetable crops over at least 200,000 hectares (500,000 acres) and a road network stretching nearly 1,000 kilometres (600 miles), according to preliminary estimates.

One relief official said that rivers flowing

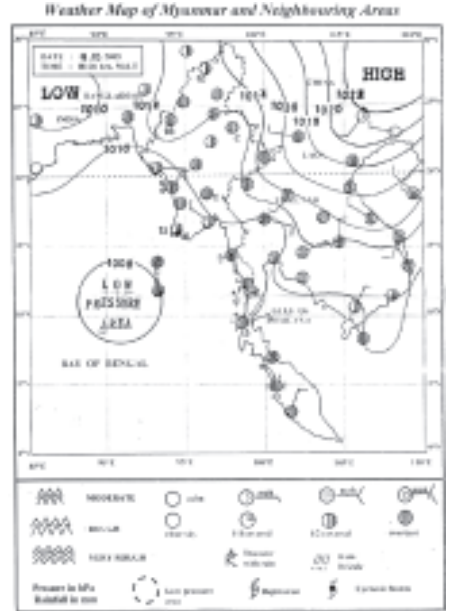
into Bangladesh from India were still in spate and the situation might worsen if the rains continued.

But the Bangladesh meteorological department said on Saturday the floods were likely to recede soon.

"The rains will stop in a few days because the monsoon is on the wane," one official said.

Monsoon floods regularly sweep most parts of Bangladesh, and eastern states of India, killing hundreds of people every year.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Sunday, 9 October, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin and Mon States and lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan, Rakhine, Kayah and Kayin States and Magway Division and widespread in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (1.15) inches, Yamethin (1.02) inches, Hinthada (0.98) inch, Tharawady (0.90) inch, Pyapon (0.83) inch, Monywa (0.79) inch and Chauk (0.47) inch. Maximum temperature on 8-10-2005 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 9-10-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 9-10-2005 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 8-10-2005 was (8.5) hours approx. Rainfalls on 9-10-2005 were nil at Mingaladon and Kaba-Aye and (0.35 inch) at central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (95.20) inches at Mingaladon, (96.34) inches at Kaba-Aye and (100.55) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Northwest at (00:50) hours MST on 9-10-2005.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, a low pressure area has formed in South Andaman Sea and adjoining Southeast Bay of Bengal. Weather is fair in the North Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Special features: Yesterday's low pressure area moving west over Thailand at (06:30) hours MST today moved into South Andaman Sea and adjoining Southeast Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 10-10-2005: Weather is partly cloudy in lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Shan and Kayah States, upper Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions and scattered to widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Rain or thundershowers are likely in Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-10-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-10-2005: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).



Monday, 10 October Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
- 8.35 am** Music:
-Love fool
...Cardigans
Perspectives
- 8.40 am** Music:
(Bop)³
Babby...
Westlife
- 8.45 am** National news & Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music:
-Let's dance...
Five
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** (Dance)³ ...
Club 7
- 1:30 pm** News / Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Lunch time music
-Say goodbye
... Madonna
-Wind Beneath my wings
...Bette Middler
-Just the way you're ...
Billy Joel
-All by my self...
Celine Dion
- 9.00 pm** Sport light on the star "John Dever" leaving on Jet plane, take me home country road
- 9.15 pm** Article
- 9.25 pm** Drugs Elimination
Enhance people's awareness of danger of narcotic drugs
- 9.30 pm Golden Land's melody
-Beautiful
Ngapali
- 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm** PEL

- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
3. Demonstration Exercises for Correct Pronunciation.
- 4:45 pm**
4. အမှတ်(၃)အခြေခံပညာဦးစီးဌာန၊ ရန်ကင်းတိုင်းအခြေခံပညာကျောင်းများဝတ်စွတ် ဖြိုင်ပွဲ တတိယဆု (အထက်(၂)တောင်ဥက္ကလာ ဝတ်အသင်း)
- 5:00 pm**
5. အစေးသင်တန်းသို့လုပ်ညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (စာတုအေးအထူးပြု) (စာတုအေး)
- 5:15 pm**
6. Dance variety
- 5:25 pm**
7. ၂၀၀၅ ရ နှစ်၊ တေရသမ အကြိမ်(၁၃ကြိမ်) မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာ ယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအကားအရူး၊ အတီး၊ ဖွဲ့ဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင် ကြရန် (ကာလပေါ်တေးနှင့် အတီးအကား)(ပါသကောင်းအဆင့်) (အမျိုးသမီး)
- 6:35 pm**
8. ထာဝရသို့ ဖြည့်စွက်မှု (အတီး ပညာဘာသာရပ် ဆွေးနွေးခန်း) (အပိုင်း-၇)
- 5:50 pm**
9. Song and dance of national races
- 5:55 pm**
10. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)
- 6:05 pm**
11. Industrial achievement
- 6:15 pm**
12. နိုင်ငံခြားကာတွန်းဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ရယ်လ်ဆော့ရှိုး" (အပိုင်း-၂၅)
- 6:30 pm**
13. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
14. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "အချစ်ရေတူးထဲ" (အပိုင်း-၃)
- 7:35 pm**
16. Musical programme
- 7:45 pm**
17. ခိုင်လုံစောင့်ရှောက်ရေးအဖွဲ့ ဆံတော်ဦးစေတီတော်
- 8:00 pm**
18. News
- 19. International news
- 20. Weather report
- 21. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သောအချစ်" (အပိုင်း-၁၉)
- 22. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး ဦးစိမ့်ညွှာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ် ငယ်မျက်နှာခေတ္တဘာဝရာ ဌာနများဖြင့်တေးတော်
- 23. The next day's programme



Monday, 10 October View on today

- 7:00 am**
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am**
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
4. Nice and sweet song
- 8:00 am**
5. Song of national races
- 8:15 am**
6. Cute little dancers
- 8:30 am**
7. International news
- 8:45 am**
8. Islands of Dhamma
- 8:50 am**
9. ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝါယာဝိနာဘိဝံသ (အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘုရားဂါရိက) တိပိဋက မဟာဂန္ထဝင်ကျောင်း၊ ဒဂုံမြို့သစ် (အရှေ့ပိုင်း)မြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကင်းတိုင်း ထံမှ နဝရံပေါသထာဝလံယူဆောင်တည်ခြင်း

Officials urged to organize locals to participate in regional development drive

Lt-Gen Maung Bo meets departmental officials, social organizations, Tatmadawmen in Myeik

YANGON, 9 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence held a meeting with departmental officials and members of social organizations at Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Office in Myeik on 7 October morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and officials.

Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe reported on cultivation of paddy in the division, allotment of lands to oil palm cultivation companies and growing of oil palms, construction of crude palm oil mills, completion of cultivation of rubber in 2004-05 and pepper in 2005-06, and per capita income.

Officials of Irriga-



Lt-Gen Maung Bo meets with military officers, other ranks and families at the hall of Coastal Region Command. —MNA

tion Department, Myanmar Agriculture Service, Settlement and Land Records Department, Department of Development Affairs, Public Works and others submitted their respective reports.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said that Taninthayi Division will achieve progress in the future. Development of a region depends on officials who

are assigned duties in the region. It is necessary to organize the local people to take part in all aspects for development of the division. As Taninthayi Division has significant

natural resources, efforts are to be made to cooperate with other regions in the economic sector.

At Taing Yan Aung Hall of the command headquarters, Lt-Gen

Maung Bo met with Tatmadawmen and family members of Myeik Station. It was attended by Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, Deputy Commander

Brig-Gen Hon Ngai and senior military officers.

Lt-Gen Maung Bo explained matters on organization to ensure the participation of the people in public welfare tasks, realization of the seven-point Road Map and carrying out the agriculture and livestock breeding tasks on a manageable scale. Next, Lt-Gen Maung Bo left Myeik and arrived back here later in the morning.—MNA

As Taninthayi Division has significant natural resources, efforts are to be made to cooperate with other regions in the economic sector.

Sales at 2005 Mid-year Gem Emporium continue



YANGON, 9 Oct — Patron of Central Committee for Gem Emporium Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Committee Chairman Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein arrived at the 2005 Mid-year Gem Emporium at Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning.

The minister and the deputy minister viewed round the shops at the mart and cordially greeted gem merchants from home and abroad. Afterwards, they inspected the sale of gem lots through the competitive bidding.

A total of 45 gem lots were sold through competitive bidding today.

Altogether 1,961 local and foreign gem merchants viewed round jade lots.

The jade lots will be put on sale on 11 October. *MNA*

Local and foreign gem merchants conduct an observation of jade lots on display at Mid-Year Myanmar Gem Emporium for 2005.

MNA

Untimely Rainfall Warning

YANGON, 9 Oct — Yesterday's low pressure area over Thailand moving west, at (06:30) hour MST observations today occur into South Andaman Sea and adjoining Southeast Bay of Bengal.

Under the influence of the low pressure area, scattered to widespread rain or thundershowers are likely in the Southern part of Rakhine and Mon States, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions during the next 48 hours commencing this morning.

MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded

(9-10-2005)

Myeik	(1.15) inches
Yamethin	(1.02) inches
Hinthada	(0.98) inch
Thayawady	(0.90) inch
Pyapon	(0.83) inch
Monywa	(0.79) inch
Chauk	(0.47) inch