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True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation wherever he lives to cultivate and possess strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to uphold and safeguard.



Senior General Than Shwe saying bon voyage to Prime Minister General Soe Win on departure for Bangkok to attend the 2nd Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit.—MNA

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

Senior General Than Shwe sees off PM General Soe Win on his departure for Thailand to attend 2nd ACMECS

YANGON, 1 Nov— At the invitation of Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, and party left for Bangkok, Thailand, to attend the 2nd Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit.

Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Soe Win was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council (See page 8)



Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Soe Win who will attend 2nd Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit in Bangkok. — MNA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 2 November, 2005

Work in concert to make the National Convention a complete success

The State Peace and Development Council is trying to build a developed and democratic state based on its historical and cultural background. And it is implementing the seven-point Road Map for the nation's future and its long-term interests. The National Convention, the very first and most important step of the programme, is now well under way.

The National Convention Convening Commission, the Work Committee and the Management Committee held their work coordination meeting at the NCCC meeting hall at the Nyaungnapin Camp in Hmawby Township on 29 October and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein took part in the discussion.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein urged the NCCC, the Work Committee, the Management Committee and respective sub-committees to pull together and do their bit successfully as before.

The National Convention held from 17 February to 31 March was adjourned in order that peasants' delegates taking part in the National Convention could do their work in the cultivation season and other delegates their businesses.

Now the National Convention is going to be reconvened on 5 December 2005. Therefore, all the necessary preparations are being made at the Camp in Hmawby Township.

At the last session of the National Convention, the delegates discussed and made suggestions on basic principles to be based on sharing of executive and judiciary powers.

At the coming session, these principles will be adopted and the remaining topics are to be discussed.

In our implementation of the seven-point Road Map for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy, the National Convention is the most fundamental and important.

This being the case, we would like to call on the delegates to the National Convention as well as the entire national people to work in concert to make the National Convention a complete success.

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

Measures for timely distribution of school textbooks discussed



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan delivers a speech at the coordination meeting. — MNA

YANGON, 1 Nov— The Committee for Printing and Distributing School Textbooks for 2006-2007 academic year held a meeting at the Ministry of Information on Theinbyu Road here on 28 October afternoon.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan in his address called for discussions on progress in printing school textbooks, the number of more textbooks to be printed, and printing textbooks in Yangon and Upper Myanmar, and advantage and disadvantage of reducing the sizes of the textbooks that can save paper and printing

materials.

The chairman of the Committee added that the officials are to present their opinions on designation of exact number and last date for printing textbooks, changing of the size, and other relevant facts.

Chairman of Subcommittee for Printing School Textbooks Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein presented a report saying that the Ministry of Information is printing the textbooks with the use of nine printing presses — seven in Yangon, and two in Mandalay. The printing of textbooks in Yangon will be com-

pleted in March 2006, and in Mandalay, in the third week of April 2006. He discussed the benefits on saving paper and printing materials to be gained by changing the sizes of 20 out of 84 kinds of textbooks.

Chairman of the Subcommittee for Distribution of School Textbooks Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min dealt with completion of printing the textbooks designated by the Ministry of Education coming December and arrangements for timely

distribution of textbooks.

Members of the Committee and subcommittees held a general round of discussions to meet the targets.

The minister instructed the officials to complete the printing of 40 per cent of 84 kinds of textbooks by this December, 80 per cent by February 2006, and the remainder, by March 2006, and to distribute the books to the students in states and divisions starting from this open season.

MNA

Preliminary meeting of 6th Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Conference held

YANGON, 1 Nov — Preliminary meeting of the 6th Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Conference was held today at the Institute of Nursing here.

At the meeting, delegates of the conference discussed matters related to conference in groups and submitted proposals for the confer-

ence. The meeting was attended by Chairman of Traditional Medicine Council Director General of the Traditional Medicine Department Dr Thein Swe and members of the council, members of Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Association and delegates of the conference.

MNA

Coord Meeting on health activities held

YANGON, 1 Nov — As part of an effort to provide public health services, the Ministry of Health is carrying out dissemination of knowledge on health and preventive measures against diseases and providing effective treatment at grass-roots level, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint said in his opening address at Coordination Meeting on Health Activities Implemented by the Ministry of Health.

At the meeting

held at the hall of the National Health Committee this afternoon on Dagon Township, the minister briefed on health activities being carried out by the ministry.

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo and high ranking officials of international social organizations also participated in the meeting.

The minister, deputy minister and officials of the Ministry of Health also replied to the queries raised by those present. — MNA

Air Bagan Myanmar Golf Tour 2005 - 2006
November 3 - 6, 2005. Yoytagun Taung Golf Resort, Mandalay.

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

Russia opposes Iran's possession of nuclear weapons

Moscow, 31 Oct—Russia opposes Iran's acquisition of nuclear weapons but insists it has the right to use peaceful nuclear technology for power generation, Russian Defence Minister Sergei Ivanov said Saturday.

"Russia, as a civilized nation, is against the acquisition of nuclear weapons by Iran, or by any other country that is not a member of the nuclear club," the Russian Defence Minister said on NTV television Saturday night.

Ivanov, however, repeated the Russian position on Iran's nuclear rights.

"I am convinced that Iran has the right to use the benefits of nuclear power generation. Of course, military nuclear programmes are a totally different matter," Ivanov said.

The UN nuclear watchdog has not found Iran "is running any covert programmes, or is building infrastructure for creating nuclear weapons in the future", he said. "This is an objective reality."

The United States accuses Iran of seeking nuclear weapons under the guise of a civilian nuclear programme. Iran, however, says its nuclear

programme is dedicated exclusively to power generation. Germany, France and Britain, representing the European Union (EU), had been negotiating with Iran to persuade it to scrap uranium enrichment, but the talks collapsed after Iran ended a freeze on uranium conversion in August.

The EU trio have warned of hauling Iran before the UN Security Council for possible sanctions. If they do, Iran has said, it would not back down.

In the NTV interview, Ivanov also proposed forming security forces in the Caspian Sea to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

"It would be appropriate to form security forces in the Caspian Sea in charge of maintaining law and order and preventing the transportation of weapons of mass destruction and their components.

Theoretically, such a threat exists," Ivanov said.

MNA/Xinhua

One killed in roadside bomb attack south of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 31 Oct— A roadside bomb went off near an oil tanker south of Baghdad on Sunday, killing a civilian and wounding three others, police said. "A roadside bomb detonated at about 7:40 am (0440 GMT) as an empty oil tanker passed on the main road of Muhmoudiyah," Captain Ahmed Abdullah from Baghdad police told Xinhua.

The bomb caused a powerful explosion and

set the tanker on fire, said Abdullah, adding that a civilian was killed in the blast and three others were wounded. The casualties

were evacuated to the hospital of Muhmoudiyah, some 30 kilometres south of Baghdad, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Calls for White House shakeup focus on Karl Rove

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct— US President George W Bush, whose top adviser Karl Rove remains in jeopardy in a CIA-leak probe, needs to shake up his White House staff if he hopes to revive a presidency reeling from multi-

ple setbacks, Republican and Democratic lawmakers said on Sunday.

The lawmakers also urged Bush to investigate the office of Vice-President Dick Cheney, whose chief of staff, Lewis Libby, resigned on Friday and was indicted on perjury and other charges in connection with the probe.

Bush should take Cheney "to the woodshed" if necessary, a Democratic lawmaker said, and the Senate's top Democrat said Rove should be fired or quit.

"I think Karl Rove

should step down," Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada said on ABC's "This Week".

Mississippi Republican Senator Trent Lott said the Bush Administration needed "new blood, new energy, qualified staff", and that he expected the president to address his problems.

"I'm not talking about wholesale changes, but you've got to reach out and bring in more advice and counsel," Lott said on "Fox News Sunday".

Rove remains under

investigation in the probe into who leaked the identity of covert CIA operative Valerie Plame, whose diplomat husband is a prominent Iraq war critic. The White House's credibility has been hurt by disclosures that Rove and Libby leaked Plame's identity, despite earlier official denials attributed to the two men.

Reid said Bush and Cheney owed the public an apology. "They should come clean with the American public," he said on ABC. — MNA/Reuters

India on alert after blasts kill scores in Delhi

NEW DELHI, 31 Oct— Indian police combed the sites of three powerful blasts in New Delhi on Sunday for clues to who carried out coordinated attacks that killed at least 57 people, just days before major Hindu and Muslim festivals.

New Delhi's chief minister appealed for people to stay away from public areas for the next few days ahead of the major Hindu celebration of Diwali, or the festival of lights, on

Tuesday and the Islamic Eid al-Fitr a few days later.

In Delhi, extra armed police manned new barricades on the streets and the turnout at some temples and mosques was lower than normal in the cool, clear autumn morning.

More than 110 were still in hospital, many of them critically injured, some with severe burns. Some local media put the death toll as high as 70.

MNA/Reuters

Seven more US deaths in Iraq end a lethal month

BAGHDAD, 31 Oct— The military announced the deaths of seven American soldiers and marines near Baghdad on Monday, making October the fourth deadliest month for troops here since the war began.

Also on Monday, at least 13 people were killed and 55 wounded when a car packed with explosives detonated near a restaurant in the southern city of Basra, the spokesman for the Basra police department said.

The Americans were killed in three separate roadside bomb attacks in two days, the military said in a statement. Four soldiers were killed Monday when their vehicle hit a bomb in Yusifiya, about 10 miles south of Baghdad. Two more died in a similar fashion near Balad, 50 miles north of

the capital. On Sunday, a marine was killed in a roadside bomb attack in Amiriya, southwest of Baghdad.

The attacks brought the number of Americans killed in October to 92, the highest monthly toll since January, when 106 American troops were killed in violence ahead of national elections here.

This month's death toll and January's have been surpassed only twice since the war began: in November 2004, when Americans battled Sunni Arab rebels in Falluja, and in April 2004, when they

fought militiamen loyal to the Shiite cleric Moktada al-Sadr in Najaf.

The bomb in Basra on Monday tore through the Jandul restaurant on Al Jazaer Street in the center of the city at 8:30 p.m., said the police spokesman, Karim al-Zaidy. The bomber stopped his explosive-laden car behind a police cruiser that was parked in front of the restaurant and then walked away before the vehicle exploded, Mr. Zaidy said. At least four of those killed were police officers.

Internet



A UBS-sponsored racing yacht 'UBS Wild Thing', pictured off North Queensland in Australia, on 20 Aug, 2005. — INTERNET



An Iraqi firefighter and civilians look at the damages after a car bomb explosion in Basra on 31 Oct, 2005. —INTERNET

Hu Jintao arrives Hanoi on goodwill visit

HANOI, 1 Nov—Hu Jintao, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and president of China, arrived here on Monday for a three-day official goodwill visit to Vietnam.

Hu is here as guest of Nong Duc Manh, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and Tran Duc Luong, President of Vietnam.

During the visit, Hu will meet Vietnamese leaders and exchange views on bilateral relations and other issues of common concern.

In a written statement delivered upon arrival at

the airport, Hu reviewed the Sino-Vietnamese traditional friendship, which he said is the common treasure for both sides.

He said guided by the principles of long-term stability, future orientation, good neighbourly friendship and all-round cooperation, China and Vietnam are continuing their friendship with the determination to be good

neighbours, friends, comrades and partners forever.

Hu said he believes that his visit will promote friendship and mutual trust between the two parties, the two countries and their peoples, as well as the reciprocal cooperation and common development of the two sides.

This year marks the 55th anniversary of Sino-Vietnamese diplomatic ties, said Hu. He hoped both sides will take this opportunity to jointly push bilateral relations to a new high. —MNA/Xinhua

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Nong Duc Manh (C), general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV), Vietnamese President Tran Duc Luong (L) and Hu Jintao, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and president of China review honour guards during a welcome ceremony in Hanoi, capital of Vietnam on 31 Oct. —INTERNET

China's overseas investment to reach \$60b in five years

BEIJING, 31 Oct — China's direct overseas investment is estimated to total over 60 billion US dollars in five years, said sources with the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM).

China had invested 44.8 billion US dollars in 149 countries and regions by the end of 2004 and the figure would rise at 22 per cent every year, said an official with MOFCOM at a national meeting on foreign economic cooperation closed here Saturday.

MOFCOM statistics show that in the first nine months, China invested 5.1 billion US dollars directly abroad with a year-on-year surge of 138 per cent.

Yet, in terms of direct overseas investment, China is still far behind developed countries and some of developing nations.

The 44.8 billion dollars of overseas investment is merely 2.2 per cent of that of the United States, 13.4 per cent of Japan, one fifth of Spain, show government statistics. — MNA/Xinhua

Death toll in Indian train crash rises to 123, rescue work ends

NEW DELHI, 31 Oct — Rescue workers Sunday stopped their operations at Veligonda in Nalgonda District of south India's Andhra Pradesh, where a train accident killed 123 Saturday, Indo-Asian News Service reported. Army and Railway officials ruled out the possibility of finding any more body from the wreckage of the passenger train that had derailed and plunged into a rivulet.

"There are no more bodies in the derailed compartments and we are now focusing on removing the wreckage and restoring the railway line," said Thomas Verghese, the in-charge general manager of the South Central Railway. —MNA/Xinhua

Canada to continue pressure on Washington over softwood

OTTAWA, 31 Oct— Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin said on Sunday his government would continue to press the US to respect a NAFTA ruling ordering Washington to drastically cut duties on imported Canadian softwood.

"We're going to continue to press our case with the United States. We'll do so respectfully but we're not going to let up," Martin said in a two-minute broadcast aired on 28 private radio stations across Canada Sunday morning. "If we have to go to court to get what's rightfully ours, we will," Martin said. "If we have to keep pressuring the Americans, we will. It's just too important to do otherwise."

On Friday, the US Department of Commerce said it needs clarification on the order of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) that America should eliminate countervail duties on the Canadian softwood.

Friday was deadline for Washington to respond to the latest NAFTA ruling made on 5 October. Sunday's broadcast will be Martin's first of a weekly radio addresses. And the airtime would be paid by the Liberal Party.

MNA/Xinhua

Rising security costs curtail Iraq reconstruction

WASHINGTON, 31 Oct—Many US-financed reconstruction projects in Iraq are unlikely to get off the drawing board because of soaring security costs related to the insurgency, a report to Congress said.

The report by the special inspector general for Iraq reconstruction, Stuart Bowen, said American contractors account for 120 of the 147

US civilians killed in Iraq since March 2003.

Security costs now account for 25 percent of the nearly 30 billion dollars appropriated by the

United States for reconstruction projects in Iraq, said the report, which covers the three month period ending 30 September.

The dramatic increase in spending on security "has proportionately reduced funds for other reconstruction projects," the report said.

Bowen warned that there is a growing gap between the number of projects the United States originally proposed building in Iraq and those it will ultimately complete. Besides rising security costs, projects have been plagued by increased costs of materials, project delays, cost overruns, and multiple changes in reconstruction priorities, he found.

Bowen said hundreds of millions of dollars more also will have to be spent training Iraqis to take over and maintain projects once they have been completed

Intenret



An Iraqi plain clothes policeman secures the area near the remains of a car bomb, exploded in the area between Kazimiyah and Shulla neighbourhoods, west of Baghdad, Iraq, on 31 Oct, 2005. —INTERNET

China earns \$22b of forex on tourism in first 3 quarters

BEIJING, 31 Oct — China's tourism industry reported a foreign exchange earning of 22 billion US dollars in the first nine months this year, up 18.2 per cent year-on-year.

China received 89.63 million tourists from outside the Mainland in the nine months, up 12.2 per cent year-on-year, said Sun Gang, deputy director of National Tourism Administration at the 42nd Congress of International Hotel & Restaurant Association over the weekend. Of the total, overseas tourists who stayed over in China were numbered 34.79 million, up 14.4 per cent year-on-year, Sun said. Sun recalled that in 1978, when China began its reform and open-up drive, the country only received 1.81 million overseas tourists and had a foreign exchange earning of 263 million dollars.

In 2004, the number of tourists from outside the Mainland reached 109 million, including 41.76 million who stayed over night; and foreign exchange earnings from tourism reached 25.7 billion dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

Enough patience needed for establishment of E Asian Community

BEIJING, 31 Oct — Experts on East Asian studies warned here on Sunday that enough patience is needed for the establishment of proposed East Asian Community.

Addressing the Joint Study Convention on East Asia Cooperation held here Sunday, Wang Gungwu, director of the East Asian Institute of National University of Singapore, said, "The establishment of the East Asian Community is a possible direction of the East Asian future development, yet it still has a long way to go. Therefore each party should have enough patience, and cannot be overanxious for quick results."

Over 40 experts and scholars from 13 countries, including

China, Japan, South Korea and Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), put their heads together at the convention to discuss the further development of East Asian region and the blueprint of the East Asian Community.

In his speech at the opening ceremony of the convention, Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Wu Dawei called for the experts to strengthen cooperation between different institutions on East Asian studies, beef up the international between academia, government and the people and

enhance the exchange with other institutions out of the region.

"In the process of building up the East Asian Community, all parties concerned should step up the communication and mutual understanding with each other and show mutual respect to the diversity among different countries," said Wang.

As countries in East Asia have various cases of political, cultural, social and historical development, Wang said, "Therefore, a new value view formed with full consideration of all parties' concerns is an indispensable basis for the establishment of the community."

MNA/Xinhua

US soldier charged with murder faces investigation

CAMPARIFJAN (Kuwait), 1 Nov — A US Army sergeant charged

with murdering two colleagues in Iraq faced a formal investigation on Monday to recommend if he should stand trial in the first case of its kind since the 2003 invasion.

Staff Sergeant Alberto Martinez faces a possible death sentence if convicted by a military court martial of the premeditated murder of company commander Captain Phillip Esposito and Lieutenant Louis Allen in a blast in Iraq in June. All three were based in Tikrit.

Martinez, 37, faced the Article 32 investigation at Camp Arifjan, a US military base

37 miles south of Kuwait City. Reporters were allowed to attend the proceedings.

During the probe, expected to end by Wednesday, both sides have the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses to the investigating officer whose report will recommend whether Martinez should face a court martial for the murders.

Martinez, Esposito and Allen served in the headquarters company of the 42nd Infantry Division, a reserve unit drawn from the New York Army National Guard.

MNA/Reuters

Both Syria and Iran should "adopt a reconciliatory approach instead of a confrontational one", Saudi Arabia's Arab News quoted Musharraf as saying. "I would not make that kind of statement. Because anything that serves to increase confrontation should be avoided," Musharraf said of conservative Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's comments on Friday. But he said Washington must also exercise restraint.

"I have told everyone that we cannot afford confrontation with Iran. We cannot open new fronts," Musharraf said. "When I go to the US and meet the leadership, I tell them we have to close fronts. We cannot afford so many fronts. We have a front in Iraq, a front in Afghanistan, a front in Palestine and a front in Kashmir," he added.

Iran has developed Shahab-3 ballistic missiles that can hit Israel. The United States said Ahmadinejad's remarks underscored its fears that Teheran is pursuing nuclear arms — a charge which Teheran denies.

MNA/Reuters



A Chinese man tests a Lenovo desktop at a computer shop in Shanghai in this 9 August, 2005 file photo. China's Lenovo Group Ltd reported a better-than-expected 22 percent rise in quarterly profit on 1 November, 2005 as the world's third-biggest personal computer seller gained domestic market share and began integrating its newly purchased international unit. —INTERNET

Four Swedish tourists killed in Spanish bus crash

MADRID, 31 Oct — A bus carrying Swedish tourists to the airport after a Canary Islands holiday crashed on Sunday, killing four passengers and injuring more than 20, Spanish officials said.

They said the bus, travelling on a motorway near Arona in the south of the island of Tenerife, swerved to avoid another vehicle, overturned and

crashed into a car filling up at a petrol station.

"There are four dead, two children and two adults, all of Swedish nationality," a government spokeswoman in Tenerife said.

"They were going to South Tenerife Airport to catch a flight at the end of their holidays," she added.

Of the 31 people aboard the bus, four were seriously

injured, including the driver, she said. Another 22 suffered slight injuries and were being treated in a hospital on the island, a popular tourist destination.

MNA/Reuters

British soldiers given 500-pound incentive to recruit mates

LONDON, 31 Oct — British soldiers who persuade friends to join the infantry will be paid 500 pounds (about 900 US dollars) as part of an emergency campaign to halt a drastic decline in

recruitment, the SUNDAY TELEGRAPH reported.

The campaign will be launched during a six-week period over Christmas in an attempt to help to halt the recruitment dilemma.

A Ministry of Defence

document obtained by the newspaper revealed that less than half the number of recruits needed will join this year. The infantry is the most hit in the Army as the majority of the 8,500 troops serving in Iraq come from the infantry, and the 3,200 who will be deployed to Afghanistan next April will come mainly from infantry battalions. The document, drawn up by the infantry's headquarters, also shows that none of its eight divisions will meet their recruiting targets.

The document shows that the infantry — which contains about 28,000 soldiers, is 1,859 men under strength, a figure that will increase to 2,288, about 8 per cent of the infantry, by next March. It also states that 38 of the 40 battalions are also under strength.

MNA/Reuters

Committee to probe US Getty Museum antiquities

LOS ANGELES, 31 Oct — A panel appointed by the overseers of the J Paul Getty Museum will look into how it built up its antiquities collection and whether a top official of the J Paul Getty Trust misused funds.

The trust's board announced the formation of the five-member committee on Saturday, three months after Getty antiquities curator Marion True was charged by the Italian Government with conspiring with dealers trafficking in looted items.

True has quit the Getty Trust and her trial resumes next month. — MNA/Reuters



US Marine keeps watch of activities from his post at the town of al-Qaim at the Iraqi-Syrian border, in western Iraq, on 25 Oct, 2005. —INTERNET

Union Solidarity and Development Association consisting of Union-loving citizens

Tekkatho Myat Thu

I wrote an article titled "If we all love the Union" that appeared in the 19-9-1993 issues of Kyemon and Myanma Alin dailies. To compile this article, I would like to reproduce the facts featured in that article.

"I learnt from the TV news programme screened on 15 September 1993 that the Union Solidarity and Development Association was formed with the aim of safeguarding the State and serving the national interests. The Association was registered under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

"After hearing that news story, I could not hear other news items as I was wrapped up in deep thought. I thought a strong force for the Union of Myanmar is emerging in the near future. Now, political parties have existed legally. Discussions are held and suggestions made at the ongoing National Convention for laying down basic principles to be included in the drawing of the State Constitution essential for building a democratic nation.

"Priority is given to the emergence of discipline-flourishing multi-party democracy system in holding discussions on chapter headings and basic principles to be included in the framing of the State Constitution. Concerning political parties, the basic principle, that says necessary laws shall be formulated for systematic forming of political parties, has been laid down. Political parties should serve the interests of the State and the people as political parties. The USDA should serve the interests of the Union and the people with a sense of national duty.

"Political parties will have to carry out tasks in the interests of the Union of Myanmar and the people, while the Association will have to take part in the nation-building tasks with might and main. Our nation has a fine tradition that national forces such as various national races, peasants,

workers, intellectuals, intelligentsia, youths and Tatmadaw members are united in anti-colonialist battles, independence struggles, anti-Fascist resistance, and reconstruction tasks. So, it can be deduced that the newly-established USDA is a strong national force that deserves a warm welcome."

I do not remember the membership of the Association when it came into existence. I have learnt that now the membership of the Association touches over 21 million. I have read or heard news on ceremonies to submit USDA membership applications held in wards, villages and towns. USDA has set a record in Myanmar that its membership is more than that of any other social organizations that represent the public.

It can be said that its membership makes up about half of the nation's population, about 54 million, because elderly persons and young children cannot join the Association. So, the Association is a reliable national force that represents the nation and the people.

The Association is engaged in bounden duties — public welfare services, nation-building task, task for ensuring equitable development of all parts of the nation, tasks for restoration of security, peace and stability of the nation, rural development task, task for perpetuation of independence as long as the world exists, national development task, implementation of the State's seven-point Road Map for emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation, and the task for crushing destructive elements, lackeys of alien nations, and traitors who are harming the Union, national people, sovereignty, peace and stability, and the development of the nation.

It is incumbent upon the entire national people who live in the Union in amity through thick and thin to see to such huge tasks. Members of the Association are of reliable forces that have been implementing these bounden duties. Central level, division level and township level USDAs are conducting a variety of courses on Myanmar and international affairs to sharpen

the abilities of young and medium-age members. If members are knowledgeable about Myanmar and international affairs, they will have correct conceptions, will be able to make correct decisions and carry out correct activities. The better the members are nurtured, the more the flowers of the members will be in bloom. If the people are able to distinguish between destructive acts and constructive efforts, they will be able to avoid being caught in the trap of neo-colonialists who are manufacturing false news stories to colonize weak nations. If so, all will understand why they should love the mother country and national people. Then, they can be fully equipped with patriotic spirit, nationalistic spirit, and the spirit of cherishing motherland. This in turn can generate Union Spirit.

Originally, youth members are active, alert, and dynamic with fine qualities. They are extending a helpful hand in helping shape a brighter future of the nation.

I write this article in honour of the 12th anniversary of the Union Solidarity and Development Association. In conclusion, I would like to restate some paragraphs that were featured in my article compiled 12 years ago.

"—In view of current Myanmar's affairs, we can witness that the Tatmadaw, the strong national force, and national people are carrying out work in concert for building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, while certain neo-colonialist nations with the practice of hegemonism are disrupting national interests with the aim of making the national people get in straits, and their axe-handles are posing a grave danger to the nation and the people. Now we should decide which force we should support — destructive elements that cannot bear to see peace, stability, national unity and development in the nation, or national force that loves the motherland and is making efforts to ensure national development in the interests of the Union and the people. And it is high time to crush all internal and external destructive elements that are creating invented stories and resorting to all possible wicked means to destroy the nation, and to be united and harmonious under the flag of the Union Solidarity and Development Association.

"—The flag and emblem of the Association signify peace, bravery, and unity. And the motto of the Association is "Morale, Discipline, Solidarity, Unity.

"—When my thought stopped, an idea struck to my mind that all the national people who want to see the nation prosperous should enthusiastically join the Union Solidarity and Development Association."

Translation: MS

In view of current Myanmar's affairs, we can witness that the Tatmadaw, the strong national force, and national people are carrying out work in concert for building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, while certain neo-colonialist nations with the practice of hegemonism are disrupting national interests with the aim of making the national people get in straits, and their axe-handles are posing a grave danger to the nation and the people.

Education sector witnesses sustained progress

Development of basic education in the time of Tatmadaw Government

Literacy rate in states and divisions

Today is the knowledge age which dominates all sectors. Constant learning is a must in this knowledge age and thus it is necessary to possess reading and writing skills as a first step. It can be said that an illiterate person will not be able to serve the interest of the nation and even his own. Therefore, every government in the world is paying serious attention to literacy campaign.

In Myanmar, efforts have been made in the consecutive eras to tackle the problem of illiteracy which is the evil legacy of colonial period and to promote the number of literate persons. Thanks to the endeavours made for the public to be literate in the Union of Myanmar, the literacy rate has become higher and higher year after year. In 1950, the literacy rate of the country stood at 35 per cent and in 1988 it was 79.7 per cent.

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, literacy campaigns have been launched with momentum and as a result adult literacy rate jumped to 91 per cent in 2000 from 83 per cent in 1996. In 2004, the number rose up to 93.3 per cent. In 2005, special programmes for summer literacy campaigns have been implemented and due to these campaigns, 203,293 illiterates have become literate persons. With the implementation of the projects, the adult literacy rate of Myanmar in 2005 reached 94.1 per cent.

Success has been achieved in the literacy campaign. Moreover, programmes to enhance the reading skills of literate persons have been implemented continuously. The table shows the increased literacy rate which is the result of endeavours of the government with the active cooperation of educational, social and regional organizations and the people in the time of the Tatmadaw government.



Villagers of Kamarwei village in Mudon Township, Mon State trying to promote their reading skills.

Thanks to the endeavours made for the public to be literate in the Union of Myanmar, the literacy rate has become higher and higher year after year.

Social organizations participate in the government's endeavours of literacy campaign. Photo shows members of Myanmar Women's Affairs Organization help locals in pursuing education in Shan State.

Literacy rate in states and divisions

Sr	State and Division	1988	2005	Progress
1	Kachin	92.7	93.2	0.5
2	Kayah	59.0	97.4	38.4
3	Kayin	59.2	97.2	38.0
4	Chin	56.9	92.2	35.3
5	Sagaing	80.9	95.6	14.7
6	Taninthayi	80.2	98.6	18.4
7	Bago (East)	89.2	96.4	7.2
8	Bago (West)	89.2	99.6	10.4
9	Magway	85.9	95.1	9.2
10	Mandalay	81.7	98.5	16.8
11	Mon	79.2	96.6	17.4
12	Rakhine	59.8	75.0	15.2
13	Yangon	90.5	97.4	6.9
14	Shan (South)	47.3	91.0	43.7
15	Shan (North)	47.3	68.4	21.1
16	Shan (East)	47.3	49.7	2.4
17	Ayeyawady	91.1	99.0	7.9
	Total	79.7	94.1	14.4



Senior General Than Shwe sees off PM General Soe Win on his departure for Thailand to attend 2nd ACMECS

(from page 1)

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Coun-

cil Lt-Gen Thein Sein, members of the State Peace and Development Council, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), the Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council the Commander of Yangon Command, ministers, senior military officers, Charge d' Affairs

ai of the Embassy of Thailand Mr Opas Chantarasap and embassy staff, departmental heads and officials.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and heads of department.—MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win shakes hands with Charge d' Affairs of Thai Embassy Mr Opas Chantarasap at the airport before departure for Thailand to participate in 2nd ACMECS.

MNA



Myanmar cultural superstructure of that time was endowed with grand ideologies, teachings of Theravada Buddhism to cultivate the morals and manners of the people, and the reputation of having sympathy and equality for mankind and observing the social codes of conduct.

(from page 16)

Over 2,000 years ago, Myanmar were civilized to a degree of setting up advanced city states of that time. Myanmar had all kinds of performing arts and were the people nurturing and developing a variety of branches of delicate and profound artis-

Myanmars have handed down after establishing and nurturing then to be able to relay them to the future.

The driving force that has shaped and is still shaping the Myanmar society to be civilized and polite, to enjoy high standard of culture and to ensure

and the teachings of the Buddha due to the fact that Myanmar literature and dramas flourished in the royal palace.

Moreover, the arts of drama and marionette has greatly influenced Myanmar people who love the performing arts. And it is most encouraging and laudable that

Besides, till the last moment when he was about to go with Ponnaka, the ogre commander, Vidhura Minister remained composed and was completely free from fear.

And significantly he delivered the sermon Rajavasati that states the principles to be followed

by wife, children, servants and male members of royal entourage (now State service personnel) as follows:—

- for male members of royal entourage, to be equipped with moral ethics, to enhance wisdom, and to be clean and righteous at heart,
- to discharge duties free from bias,
- to carry out tasks righteously even behind their superiors' back,
- not to misappropriate the finances of the king, and be thrifty,
- to perform duties re-

lentlessly, to refrain from consuming drugs and drinks, and to be upright,

- to control physical and verbal deeds, and not to speak worthless words,
- not to let anyone even wife know what is to be kept secret, and
- to be loyal to the king or the State.

Such invaluable teachings remind each and every Myanmar national about the code of conduct and loyalty to the State, and are still applicable up to now.

(See page 10)

The onus is on the present-day citizens to promote and pass on fine traditions to the next generation youth

tic knowledge and skills in the very early period.

Myanmar cultural superstructure of that time was endowed with grand ideologies, teachings of Theravada Buddhism to cultivate the morals and manners of the people, and the reputation of having sympathy and equality for mankind and observing the social codes of conduct.

Besides, Myanmar's fine practice of preserving and observing the traditions and culture, human ethics, values and norms flourishing on the foundation of the respectable reputation and customs; they abide by them the way they observe the Precepts till today.

We, the present-day people, are applying various means including the Performing Arts Competitions in preserving and upholding the cultural traits, practices, values and qualifications, the heritage ancient

prevalence of justice and equality is the codes of conduct, social values, and the teachings of Theravada Buddhism, the people have been observing respectfully.

Such fine social ethics and the teachings of the Buddha are presented in Myanmar treatises, epics, poems, verses, and treatises on code of ethics. Similarly, scripts of Myanmar dramatic art and marionette shows are richly endowed with essence of Myanmar traditions and culture.

In particular, close connection and interrelation between Myanmar literature and arts of drama and marionettes has consolidated and widened the scope of the cultural superstructure of the nation. It is found that Myanmar literature and art of dramas reflect royal costumes, court affairs, kingly duties,

artistes of dramas and marionettes correctly and beneficially applied their influence over the audiences.

In the Vidhura Drama Contest prescribed for the drama contest of the Competitions, all the contestant troupes have been able to present their artistic skills to vividly reflect the essence of the Vidhura Jataka — the fulfilment of perfections by Vidhura Minister, would-be Buddha, based on high moral attributes such as great wisdom, truthfulness and patience. That makes vividly clear that Myanmar people appreciate and value of Dhamma on the basis of wisdom.

Vidhura Minister remained absolutely faithful to the truthfulness even when he was under the death threat. It reflects that Myanmar national people are faithful to truthfulness.

Medals won by states and divisions at the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

Sr	State/ Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Special Prize	Con-solation Prize	Total	Remark
1	Yangon	86	57	43			186	
2	Mandalay	27	40	47			114	
3	Ayeyawady	19	12	25			56	
4	Rakhine	19	12	8	3	3	45	
5	Mon	10	18	13	2	2	45	
6	Sagaing	10	11	17	1		39	
7	Shan	8	7	10	3	2	30	
8	Kachin	8	6	4	3	5	26	
9	Magway	5	5	5	1	1	17	
10	Bago	4	12	10		2	28	
11	Taninthayi	3	2	5	2	1	13	
12	Kayah	2	3	4	4	4	17	
13	Kayin		3	5	4	5	17	
14	Chin			2	3	8	13	
	Total	201	188	198	26	33	646	

Explanation: Excellent performance in Drama contest and Saing Contest are designated as gold.

People including new generation youths need strengths to preserve and safeguard national culture through art power

Secretary-1 hosts dinner in honour of maestros and members of panel of judges



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivers an address at the dinner hosted in honour of maestros and judges in the Competitions. — MNA

YANGON, 1 Nov — On behalf of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein hosted dinner in honour of maestros, judges and members of panel of judges who rendered assistance to the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions at the National Theatre on Myoma

and members, chairmen and members of various subcommittees, the director-general of the State Peace and Development Council Office, department heads, maestros, judges from states and divisions, members of panel of judges and guests.

U Hla Win and Daw Thida Swe of Myanma Radio and Television acted as masters of ceremonies.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen

times successfully. He hoped that veteran maestros, literati, historians and all members of panel of judges of states and divisions would take pride in the success of the performing arts competitions together with the government. He said the maestros provided invaluable assistance to the competitions in order to hold the competitions with essence and to fully realize the lofty objectives. He

petitions are being held with national essence every year for strengthening spirit of the people.

Nowadays, the cultures have come into conflict due to the modern communication technology and internal traitors are trying to destroy patriotism and Union Spirit politically and economically.

The people including new generation youths need strengths to preserve and safeguard national culture through art power.

Now is the time to revitalize patriotism which is in the mind of the people including new generation youths with the application of art powers. Moreover, the value, essence and importance of the performing arts have come to the fore, the Secretary-1 said.

He said assistance and efforts of the maestros for realization of the objectives of the competitions are of great value. Myanmar culture is full of Myanmar style, delicate and deep and gentle. Myanmar cultural art is

not recorded in symbols and various artistes hand down the culture to new generations. The veteran maestros are those who own treasures of art due to their preservation and safeguarding of the art throughout Myanmar history, he said.

He urged them to hand the treasures of art to new generation artistes.

Next, the Secretary-1 in person presented certificates of honour to elderly maestros, members of the Leading Committee, and judges.

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Member of Panel of Patrons Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung presented certificates of honour to elderly maestros, members of the Leading Committee, and judges. Members of the Panel of Patrons Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and

Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, and Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin presented certificates of honour to judges and managers and leaders of state/division teams.

Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung presented certificates of honour to artistes who gave lectures on the performing arts to the contestants, and masters of ceremonies.

Judge (oboe) U Ar Yu of Magway Division expressed thanks.

Gold medalists and artistes performed entertainment programmes.

The Secretary-1 presented cash awards to the performers, and cordially greeted maestros, judges, and team managers. Next, the dinner was hosted to maestros, judges, team managers and guests.—MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents a certificate of honour to an elderly maestro *Guita Lulin U Ko Ko*. — MNA

Kyaung Street this evening.

Present on the occasion were members of the panel of judges for the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Chairman of Leading Committee for Performing Arts Competitions Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe, the ministers, the Yangon mayor, the vice-chairman of Leading Committee

Thein Sein delivered an address. He said the ceremony was to honour veteran maestros and members of panel of judges of states and divisions who helped the performing arts competitions with full goodwill.

The performing arts competitions which much contribute towards the success and realization of the lofty noble national objectives—preservation and promotion of the national culture. The performing arts competitions have been held for 13

thanked them for their assistance.

He said the government is making correct efforts based on own strengths for development of the nation and its people. The government preserving and promoting fine historical traditions and national character and national cultural heritage is also striving for emergence of a modern developed nation, he added.

In doing so, the people need patriotism and Union spirit and that is why the performing com-



Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe presenting a certificate of honour to an elderly maestro. — MNA

Winners of 13th Myanmar Traditional...

(from page 16)

level religious song contest respectively. Maung Aung Kyi Phyo of Kachin State and Maung Zay Yar Pyai Phyo of Yangon Division, Maung Hein Htoo Zaw of Yangon Division, and Maung Yan Minn Aung of Mon State won first, second and third prizes respectively in the boys' (aged 15-20) basic education level classical song contest. Maung Ye Linn Kyaw of Rakhine State stood first; Maung Myo Nyi Nyi Zaw of Yangon Division the second and Maung Wai Yan Oo of Bago Division and Maung Naing Zaw Minn of Taninthayi Division the third respectively in the boys' (aged 10-15) basic education level classical song contest. Maung Hla Myo Zaw of Mandalay Division, Maung Wunna of Mon State and Maung Zaw Win Naing of Yangon Division stood first, second and third in the boys' (aged 5-10) level classical song contest respectively.

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented prizes



Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe presents first prize for professional level (women) classical song contest to Daw Theint Theint Swe of Yangon Division. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents first prize for basic education level (boys aged 15-20) classical song contest to Maung Zeya Pyae Phyo of Yangon Division. — MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents first prize for basic education level (boys aged 10-15) classical song contest to Maung Ye Lin Kyaw of Rakhine State. — MNA

to winners of the women's classical song contest at professional level, amateur level, higher education level and basic education level.

Daw Theint Theint Swe of Yangon Division, Daw Yi Yi Thin of Mon State and Myanmarmalay Thabyay of Mandalay Division won first, second and third prizes respectively in the women's professional level classical song contest. Daw Shwe Zin Hlaing of Mon State, Daw Kyu Kyu Khaing of Sagaing Division and Daw May Thet Shin of Mandalay Division stood first, second and third respectively in the women's amateur level classical song contest.

Ma The Myat Soe of Ayeyawady Division and Ma Ei Ei Chun of Rakhine State stood first; Ma Htet Htet Maw of Kayah State the second and Ma Nwe Nwe Thiri Aung of Shan State the third in the girls' higher education level classical song contest. Ma Aye Myat Noe Khin of Yangon Division, Ma Zabei Phyu Thein (a) Phyu Sin Thu, and Ma Kyu Kyu Lwin of Sagaing Division and Ma Phyu Phyu Aung of Kayin State (See page 11)

Foreign Affairs Minister sends congratulatory message to Japanese counterpart

YANGON, 1 NOV—Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Win has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Taro Aso, elected as Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. —MNA

U Thaug Tun presents credentials to President of the Philippines

YANGON, 2 NOV—U Thaug Tun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of the Philippines, presented his Credentials to Her Excellency Mrs Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines, on 17 October 2005 in Manila. —MNA

The onus is on the present-day citizens to promote...

(from page 8)

In the marionette contest, contestant troupes have exhibited their artistic skills to reflect Prince Minkutha's righteousness, resolute determination, and great perseverance and diligence, and the benefits of being well-versed in Myanmar traditional arts and crafts by combining the art of singing, lamentation and addresses, the art of pulling strings attached to marionettes, and the art of playing orchestra.

The arts of Myanmar drama and marionette not only reflect Myanmar traditions, prestige, and customs but also com-

prises lyric poems, classical songs on longing, songs on humour, poems, verses, art of calling and answering and scolding, and the calling on the drum ensemble to strike up the music. In addition, it indicates that Myanmar dramatists are knowledgeable about literature and treatises and traditions, and familiar with court etiquette.

Although in other countries, there are different categories of dramas such as operas, plays and ballet, Myanmar drama is all embracing music, singing, dancing, acting and also comprising literature, poems and verses.

Likewise, own ways and traditions in the field of Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts such as costumes, dancing, singing, playing musical instruments, and types of musical instruments are peculiar to the country and thus they are own cultural heritages, of which Myanmar can be proud among the world nations.

I am sure that by presenting such fine cultural heritages in the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions, the youths will notice well the grandness, long history, and delicateness and profoundness of Myanmar culture.

And this inspire them to appreciate and cherish own culture all the more.

In addition, they will be equipped with high morality, loyalty and uprightness alongside the sense of preserving national culture and national character, and as a result, their patriotism and Union Spirit will be further enhanced and cemented.

Nowadays, making full use of the state-of-the-art communications and technologies and media, some big nations are attempting to ideologically and culturally dominate the youth of the country through the doorways of politics, economy and culture. They are exporting western culture by skillfully waging a propaganda campaign by attempting to mislead the people into believing that the western culture is the world culture and also the international culture and that Myanmar culture and national cause are out-

dated; they are doing so in order that the country may fall to their domination, the people will lose the sense of nationalistic fervour and patriotism after the loss of national character and culture. In reality, Myanmar people have own national character, high standard of civilization, profound cultural traditions and concepts plus administrative system, judicial affairs and social codes of conduct that are still applicable; they have been able to stand tall throughout history for their fine traditions, kind heart and capabilities.

That is why the onus is on the present-day citizens to promote and pass on these fine traditions to the next generation youth while safeguarding the good legacies of the country while making use of the resources and opportunities in hand. I would like to urge the people to preserve the good legacies of Myanmar performing

arts, the superstructure of national culture, in combination with the fruitful results that have emerged from the Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts.

Particularly, efforts should be made through the might of the arts that stimulate the correct sense and thoughtfulness to get the people to join hands in striving for perpetuation of the Union and serving the interests of the country and the people.

In conclusion, I would like to call on those responsible to organize the people to vitalize patriotism and nationalism, to preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage, to guard against the influence of alien culture and to strengthen national unity and Union Spirit by making use of literature and art while preserving the invaluable culture of the nation through innovation.

MNA

Efforts should be made through the might of the arts that stimulate the correct sense and thoughtfulness to get the people to join hands in striving for perpetuation of the Union and serving the interests of the country and the people.

Winners of 13th Myanmar Traditional...

(from page 10)

stood first, second and third respectively in the girls' (aged 15-20) basic education level classical song contest. Ma May Thet Nwe of Shan State won first prize; Ma Wutyi Htet of Kayin State and Ma Zinthu Moe of Rakhine State the second and Ma Myat Su Kyi of Yangon Division the third prize in the girls' (aged 10-15) level classical song contest.

Ma Ohnma Mon of Yangon Division, Ma The Nu Aye of Kayin State and Ma Le Yi Ko of Rakhine State stood first, second and third in the girls' (aged 5-10) level classical song contest respectively.

Afterwards, Members of the panel of the patrons for holding the competitions, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung and Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo presented awards to winners of the men's and women's religious song contest at the professional level, amateur level, higher education level and basic education level.

Next, member of the Board of Patrons for Organizing the Competitions Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt presented prizes to those who stood first, second and third in the professional level (men) oldies and modern songs contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the amateur level (men) oldies and modern songs contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the higher education level (men) oldies and modern songs contest, to those who stood first, second



Minister Dr Chan Nyein presents first prize for basic educational level (girls aged 15-20) dancing contest to Ma Aye Nanda Htet of Yangon Division. — MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung presents first prize for amateur level (men) religious song contest to U Saw Min Naung of Mon State. — MNA

and third in the higher education level (men) oldies and modern song contest, those who stood first, second and third in the basic education level (men aged 15 to 20) oldies and modern song contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the basic education level (men aged 10 to 15) oldies and modern song contest and those who stood first, second and third in the basic education level (men aged 5 to 10) oldies and modern song contest.

Later, member of the Board of Patrons for Organizing the Competitions Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe presented prizes to those who stood first, second and third in the professional level (women) oldies and modern songs contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the amateur level (women) oldies and modern songs contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the higher education level (women) oldies and modern song contest, those who stood first, second and third in the basic education level (women aged 15 to 20) oldies and modern song contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the basic education level (women aged 10 to 15) oldies and modern song contest and those who stood first, second and third in the basic education level (women aged 5 to 10) oldies and modern song contest.

Afterwards, member of the Board of Patrons for Organizing the Competitions Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa presented prizes to those who stood first, second and third in the professional level (men) dancing contest, to supporting Saing troupes that stood first, second and third in the professional level (men) dancing contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the amateur level (men)



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe presents first prize for professional level (women) classical/modern song contest to Daw Thuzar Aung of Yangon Division. — MNA

dancing contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the higher education level (men) dancing contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the basic education level (men aged 15 to 20) dancing contest, to those who stood first, second, third and consolation prizes in the basic education level (men aged 10 to 15) dancing contest and to those who stood first, second and third and consolation prizes in basic education level (men aged 5 to 10) dancing contest.

Afterwards, member of the Board of Patrons for Organizing the Competitions Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presented prizes to those who stood first, second and third in the professional level (women) dancing contest, to supporting Saing troupes that stood first, second and third in the professional level (women) dancing contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the amateur level (women) dancing contest and to those who stood first, second and third in the higher education level (women) dancing contest.

Later, member of the Board of Patrons for Organizing the Competitions Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein presented prizes to those who stood first, second, and third in the basic education level (women aged 15 to 20), dancing contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the basic education level (women aged 10 to 15) dancing contest, to those who stood first, second and third in the basic education level (women aged 5 to 10) dancing contest and to those who stood first, second and third in the marionette (Zaw/Mintha) contest. — MNA

(News on prize presentation ceremony of the competitions will continue to appear on 3-11-2005 issue of this paper.)

Indian Chief of the Army Staff and party tour PyinOoLwin, Mandalay and Bagan

YANGON, 1 Nov — A goodwill delegation led by Indian Chief of the Army Staff General JJ Singh PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC and Mrs Anupama Singh of the Republic of India together with Maj-Gen Than Htay of the Ministry of Defence, Indian Military Attache Colonel Javinder Singh and officials arrived at Anisakan Airport in PyinOoLwin on 30 October. They were welcomed there by Rector of Defence Services Academy Brig-Gen Nyi Tun and wife and officials.

The Indian goodwill delegation visited Defence Services Technological Academy in PyinOoLwin. Rector of DSTA Brig-Gen Win Myint explained the guests about the history of the academy and the academic matters.

The Indian Chief of the Army Staff signed in the Visitors' Book. Next, the Rector of DSTA and the Indian Chief of the Army Staff exchanged souvenirs and they had documentary photo taken.

Next, the Indian goodwill delegation visited DSA where they were welcomed by Rector of DSA Brig-Gen Nyi Tun and senior military officers.

The Indian Chief of the Army Staff signed in the

Visitors' Book and the rector and the Indian Chief of the Army Staff exchanged souvenirs.

The Indian delegation also visited National Kandawgyi Gardens in PyinOoLwin.

Next, The Indian Chief of the Army Staff and party proceeded to Mandalay. They were welcomed there by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and wife, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Nay Win, Mandalay Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and senior military officers.

The Indian delegation visited Hsutaungpyi Pagoda on Mandalay Hill and enjoyed the sunset of Mandalay. The guests also visited U Sein Myint's Gold Embroidery.

In the evening, the commander and wife hosted a dinner in honour of the Indian Chief of the Army Staff and party.

After the dinner the commander and the Indian Chief of the Army Staff exchanged souvenirs. The Indian Chief of the Army Staff presented a flower basket to artistes who entertained the audience.

The Indian delegation visited Maha Muni Image yesterday and proceeded to NyaungU. They were welcomed there by Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe and wife and officials.

The guests visited Bagan Archaeological Museum. Next, they proceeded to Pyatthatgyi Pagoda and enjoyed the sunset there.

The Indian delegation also visited lacquer ware business run by U Ba Nyein in Bagan.

In the evening, the chairman of Magway Division PDC hosted a dinner in honour of the Indian guests.

This morning the Indian delegation visited Bagan and Arnanda Pagoda. The Indian Chief of the Army Staff made cash donations to the pagoda funds. The members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees presented the painting of the pagoda to the Indian Chief of the Army Staff. Afterwards, the Indian Chief of the Army Staff left NyaungU for Yangon. They were seen off at NyaungU airport by the chairman of Magway Division PDC and officials.

MNA

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Dated. 2 November 2005

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China's relief aid to quake-hit Pakistan exceeds \$20m

ISLAMABAD, 31 Oct — China's relief aid to Pakistan has amounted to 20.5 million US dollars since the 8 October earthquake struck the South Asian country, Chinese Ambassador Zhang Chunxiang said here on Saturday.

Zhang made the remarks at a signing ceremony with Ejaz Rahim, Pakistan's Cabinet Secretary, to hand over a new batch of 150,000 blankets and 3,380 tents worth 50 million yuan (about 6.2 million US dollars), as part of China's new pledge of further relief aid.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on October 27 promised that China would provide Pakistan with further relief aid worth 13.8 million US dollars after a meeting with his Pakistani counterpart Shaukat Aziz in Moscow, according to Zhang.

The ambassador said China had donated 500,000 US dollars to Pakistan at the United Nations donors conference in Geneva.

The above-mentioned amount plus the 6.2-million-dollar aid which China had donated in the first week after the devastating earthquake, has made China's relief aid to Pakistan a total of 20.5 million dollars up to now, Zhang added.

MNA/Xinhua

Brazil's ruling party dismisses Cuba funding story

SAO PAULO (Brazil), 31 Oct — The head of Brazil's ruling party dismissed a magazine report on Saturday that Cuba contributed 3 million US dollars to the 2002 election campaign of Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in violation of electoral law.

The cover story in leading weekly *Veja* reignited a government corruption scandal the president appeared to be putting behind him in recent weeks.

Veja said Lula's campaign received the money in August and September 2002 through a Cuban diplomat.

Lula, a former militant union leader and an old friend of Cuban President Fidel Castro, won the election in October that year in his fourth bid for the presidency.

The report, which prompted an opposition call for an official investigation, was the latest in a series of charges since June about vote-

buying and illegal campaign financing by the Workers' Party, or PT, that has seriously damaged its reputation and popularity.

Workers' Party President Ricardo Berzoini said the magazine was acting as an attack force for the opposition. *Veja* did not have the authority to make such accusations as it had not been able to prove previous allegations against the party, he said.

"*Veja* has already said that the PT received money from the FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia leftist guerilla group) and until now has proved nothing. The magazine is a

pamphlet for the PSDB and the PFL (opposition parties)," he was quoted as saying on the Workers' Party Web site.

The Cuban diplomat, Sergio Cervantes, who was close to the Workers' Party, denied to the magazine any funding from Havana. "Cuba needs the money," he said.

Veja did not say how the money got to Brazil but said it was handled in the capital, Brasilia, by Cervantes. It said it was flown from Brasilia to the city of Campinas hidden in boxes of rum and whiskey, then driven by car to Sao Paulo, where Delubio Soares, then Workers' Party treasurer, took control of it for the campaign committee.

In a PT purge after the corruption accusations emerged, Soares was ousted as party treasurer for running an illegal slush fund. Last weekend, he was thrown out of the party.

MNA/Reuters

World must understand scale of Pakistan crisis

MUZAFFARABAD (Pakistan), 31 Oct — The world must wake up to the scale of the earthquake disaster in the mountains of Pakistan and do more to help or many more lives will be lost in the coming winter, the head of the UN children's agency said on Sunday.

Aid donors have provided 120 million US dollars for a massive relief effort for survivors of the October 8 quake that killed more than 55,000 people and seriously injured about 78,000. But that is far short of the 550 million US dollars the United Nations has asked for. "It's very important for the world to understand how impacted this area really is, how huge this tragedy is, and how many people are still threatened because of the oncoming winter," the executive director of UNICEF, Ann Veneman, said.

Veneman was addressing a news conference in Muzaffarabad, the ruined capital of the Pakistani part of the Kashmir region.

She visited the hard-hit town of Balakot and a school where 84 girls were killed in Muzaffarabad.

The earthquake had had a disproportionate impact on children, she said, and many were without the shelter, food and medical care necessary to get them through a harsh Himalayan winter. — MNA/Reuters

Singapore prime minister ends visit to China

BEIJING, 31 Oct — Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong left Beijing on Sunday morning at the end of his first official visit to China in the capacity of prime minister.

During Lee's one-week-long visit, which featured the meetings and talks with China's top leaders Hu Jintao, Wu Bangguo, Jia Qinglin and Wen Jiabao, the two countries agreed to enhance bilateral political and economic cooperation.

Lee delivered a speech in Chinese at the Party School of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China in Beijing, which was rare for foreign leaders.

Apart from Beijing, Lee also visited Tianjin, which neighbours the Chinese capital, and Shenyang and Dalian in northeast China.

MNA/Xinhua

DEEPAWALI GREETINGS...!

May Deepawali, the holy festival of the rows of brilliant lamps, shine with the glow of wisdom (Vijja) and dispel the darkness of ignorance (Avijja)

May it bring abundant peace and prosperity, Harmony and Happiness for the people of our motherland Myanmar Naingandaw.

May All Beings be Happy...!!!

Sabbe Satta Sukhita Hontu

With Deep Metta & Goodwill
President & Executive Committee Members
All Myanmar Hindu Central Council
Yangon.

Bangladesh offers reward in hunt for militants

DHAKA, 31 Oct — Bangladesh, hit by a wave of bombings over the past two months, has put up a reward of 152,000 US dollars for information leading to the arrest of two fugitive Islamist militants.

"Anyone providing specific information leading to the arrest of Shayek Abdur Rahman, leader of Jamaat-ul-Mujahedin, and Bangla Bhai, chief of Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh (JMJB), will be given five million taka (76,000 US dollars) each," Home Minister

Lutfuzzaman Babar told reporters late on Friday.

MNA/Reuters

Highest alert issued in Bangladesh after Delhi bombings

DHAKA, 31 Oct — The government of Bangladesh issued the highest terror alert in the capital Dhaka, bordering areas and elsewhere across the country after deadly serial bombings in New Delhi on Saturday.

The government has alerted its border troops "to keep watch on the movement of terrorists" along the Bangladesh-

India border, Munshi Jalaluddin, spokesman of the Bangladesh Rifles, told *Xinhua* on Sunday.

The Bangladesh Rifles will check the suspected personnel coming from India "if they had any terrorist links both in India and Bangladesh", the spokesman said.

The highest alert was issued on Saturday covering rail stations, bus

and launch terminals, shopping malls and other public places.

The police authorities ordered installing checkpoints at different entry points leading to Dhaka and conducting search of suspected commuters and vehicles.

All officers on duty were asked to keep constant patrol and surveillance in view of the

latest bomb blasts in New Delhi which reportedly killed over 50 people.

The terrorist attacks in the neighbouring country merged when Dhaka was being put under a security blanket for hosting the 13th summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation scheduled on November 12-13.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီပွံ့ပြီးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး စည်ဆောက်အံ့

World's biggest aircraft makes debut at Germany airport

BERLIN, 31 Oct — The world's biggest passenger aircraft, the Airbus A380, made its first landing at the Frankfurt International Airport on Saturday.

About 10,000 people turned out to watch the giant jumbo glide through the morning fog to land at about 0700 GMT on a test flight to see how the jumbo jet was handled at the airport, the German news agency DPA reported.

The giant airliner, which is due to enter service in 2006, is the most advanced, spacious and efficient airliner yet produced.

Launched in December 2000, the aircraft which Airbus sees as the "flagship of the 21st Century" was designed in close collaboration with major airlines, airports and airworthiness authorities.

It was an extraordinary sight to see the landing," the DPA quoted Wilhelm Bender, chief of Fraport AG, as saying.

Combining the very latest technologies for materials, systems and industrial processes, the A380 meets the most stringent international certification requirements, the Airbus said. It can carry 35 per cent more passengers than its closest rival and with far more floor space available,

the A380 enables airlines to deliver unparalleled comfort in every class and more open space for passengers to stretch their legs. Following about eight hours of tests at the airport, the A380 which landed at the Frankfurt Airport will return to its home base in the French city of Toulouse later on Sunday.

The Airbus said that the A380's efficiency and advanced technology result in 15-20 per cent lower seat-mile costs. Its range is 10 per cent greater than that of other large aircraft.

Sixteen airliners have ordered 159 A380s. The A380 Family starts from a baseline passenger aircraft with a capacity of 555 passengers in three classes, and a range of up to 15,000 kilometres/8,000 nautical miles. The freighter version, the A380F, will carry a payload of 150 ton over 10,400 kilometres/5,600 nautical miles. Stretched, shorter and extended range variants of the baseline version will become available as and when the market requires them, according to the company.

MNA/Xinhua



Pioneer unveil a prototype model of a DVD player at an exhibition in Tokyo. Pioneer plunged deep into loss in the six months to September, whilst battling disappointing sales of DVD recorders and other consumer electronics products.—INTERNET

Nazi "Doctor Death" reportedly hiding in Spain since 1985

MADRID, 31 Oct — An Austrian doctor accused of killing hundreds of inmates at a Nazi concentration camp during World War II has been hiding in Spain for the last 20 years, a Spanish newspaper reported on Sunday.

German authorities have said they are hunting for Aribert Heim, 91, known as "Doctor Death".

Heim worked in Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria and killed hundreds of inmates by lethal injection and torture, according to the Nazi-hunting Simon Wiesenthal Centre, which has also said Heim may be hiding out in Spain. Spain's El Mundo newspaper, which has previously reported that Heim may once have lived on the Costa Brava, in northeastern Spain, said on Sunday that Heim had moved to Spain in 1985.

It said he had been sheltered by Odessa, a secret group believed to have helped Nazi war criminals hide and find them new identities. "Odessa, which has had one of its main operating bases in Spain during the 60 years of its history, has kept Doctor Aribert Heim...hidden in our country for the last 20 years," it said. —MNA/Reuters



A Chinese man rides his bicycle in front of an apartment building which houses King Win Laurel Ltd in China's capital Beijing on 1 November, 2005.

INTERNET

"Beta" belts Nicaragua, threatens mudslides

PUERTO CABEZAS (Nicaragua), 31 Oct — Hurricane Beta barreled into Nicaragua's Caribbean coast on Sunday and once inland lost steam to be downgraded to a tropical storm but its torrential rains still threatened mudslides and floods.

After pinning thousands of people in flimsy shelters overnight, Beta churned over northern Nicaragua and dumped heavy rain over the Central American nation and neighbouring Honduras and El Salvador.

Packing winds of 65 miles per hour and higher gusts, emergency officials said no deaths were reported in Nicaragua, although the forecast downpour raised fears of flooding and lethal mudslides in mountain villages.

"We have not had reports of deaths, no people knocked about, nor injured," civil defence operations chief Samuel Perez said. "But we expect rivers to swell."

The whereabouts of one small boat with 10 people aboard was not known. The vessel left Puerto Cabezas on Saturday afternoon to evacuate isolated coastal fishermen but lost contact with military authorities.

In this normally sleepy fishing town in the remote jungle of northeast Nicaragua, residents and Miskito Indian evacuees from fishing villages had rushed into makeshift shelters but Beta caused little structural damage. —MNA/Reuters



This NOAA satellite image taken, on Tuesday 1 Nov, 2005, at 3:15 am EDT shows well-defined area of clouds streaking from Michigan to Louisiana and is associated with a strong cold front. The heaviest rain is falling in the northern end of the front through Michigan and Indiana. Rain, although lighter, is also falling in the southern end of the front through Arkansas. — INTERNET

Giant Panda's habitat expanding in Sichuan

CHENH DU, 1 Nov — The habitat of the critically-endangered giant panda is expanding in southwest China's Sichuan Province, a local publicity official said on Monday.

About two weeks ago, a giant panda was seen in Luding County of Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Garze, a spokesman of the prefecture's publicity department said at a Press conference. Though giant pandas were reported several times in the county since the early 1990s, they were always seen on the

east bank of the Dadu River. The newly detected animal, however, was the first one seen roaming on the west bank, the official said. Obviously, the habitat of giant pandas is expanding across the river," he said. Dai Lin, a local farmer, called the county's forestry bureau in mid October, claiming he had

witnessed a giant panda close to his home in Detuo village, west of the river.

In a subsequent field survey, forestry officials collected samples of animal's fur and droppings and took photos of the site. Lab work proved the droppings were left by a giant panda who had dined on cornstalk. —MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS



Manchester City's Stephen Jordan, bottom, takes the ball from Aston Villa's James Milner during their English Premier League soccer match at The City of Manchester Stadium, Manchester, England on Monday, 31 Oct 2005.—INTERNET

Tevez salvages point for Brazilian leaders Corinthians

RIO DE JANEIRO, 1 Nov— Argentina forward Carlos Tevez converted a second-half penalty to salvage a 1-1 draw for Brazilian championship leaders Corinthians at home to struggling Vasco da Gama on Sunday.

Corinthians, who have 71 points from 35 games, lead by nine points from Internacional, who are at home to Paysandu on Monday.

Vasco, 17th in the 22-team table, went ahead before halftime when full-back Claudemir scored from close range.

Visiting defender Fabio Braz was sent off for a second bookable offence on the hour and was followed by Corinthians midfielder Rosinei five minutes later. Tevez equalized with his 15th goal of the competition, blasting his 70th-minute spot kick into the roof of the net after Nilmar was fouled by Luciano in a seemingly harmless position.

Vasco held on as Wesley's header hit the crossbar and goalkeeper Roberto made a point blank save from Nilmar in injury time.

Fluminense moved into third place, level on points with Internacional, when Leandro's injury-time goal earned a 4-3 win over Ponte Preta.

Champions Santos dropped to sixth, 16 points behind Corinthians, after losing 2-1 at home to Cruzeiro.

Santos were forced to play the game away from their own stadium and behind closed doors after a pitch invasion during their match with Corinthians earlier this month.—MNA/Reuters

Italian Serie A match reports

MILAN, 1 Nov— Brief reports of matches played in Italy's Serie A on Sunday:

Chievo Verona 2 — Empoli 2

Two of the brighter sides from the mid-table pack produced an entertaining game and a fair result. Franco Semioli put Chievo ahead in just the fourth minute but former Fiorentina forward Christian Rigano blasted Empoli back on to level terms four minutes later.

Another well-taken goal by the impressive Francesco Tavano put Empoli ahead but Chievo got the point they deserved when Sergio Pellissier tapped in from close range.

Lecce 0 — Messina 2

Lecce remain bottom of the table after two Gaetano D'Agostino goals inside the last ten minutes gave Messina a win which takes them out of the relegation zone. Both of D'Agostino's goals came on the break with his first a particular well-taken solo strike.

Livorno 2 — Parma 0

It is turning out to be an excellent season for Tuscan teams with Livorno joining Fiorentina inside the top five. Parma remain badly weakened by injury and despite battling bravely throughout, well-taken headers from Cristiano Lucarelli and Stefano Morrone earned Livorno the three points.

Treviso 0 — Siena 1

Treviso have still to pick up a point at home this season but Siena's solid season continued with Enrico Chiesa scoring his eighth goal of the campaign. Former Italy international Chiesa pounced to slot home after Simone Vergassola's shot had been parried.

MNA/Reuters

Primera Liga match reports

MADRID, 1 Nov— Brief reports of Primera Liga matches played on Sunday:
Alaves 0 — Cadiz 0

Alaves, yet to win at home this season, remain in the bottom three after failing to breach Cadiz's defence in a poor game.

Atletico Madrid 1 — Villarreal 1

Atletico scored after only five minutes when Jose Ignacio Zahirinos's long-range shot deflected off Villarreal defender Rodolfo Arruabarrena and bounced over the keeper.

Villarreal's Argentine defender Gonzalo Rodriguez was shown a straight red card on 16 minutes, and the home side had French midfielder Peter Luccin sent off two minutes from time.

Atletico were punished in injury time when Villarreal's Uruguayan striker Diego Forlan headed the equalizer from Juan Roman Riquelme's cross.

Deportivo Coruna 1 — Getafe 0

Depor followed up their 3-1 win over Real Madrid with a fine display against high-flying Getafe.

Diego Tristan scored the only goal, rising to head home Joan Capdevila's cross in the 25th minute.

Getafe striker Sergio Pachon hit the bar in the closing minutes.

Real Mallorca 1 — Sevilla 1

Mallorca weathered a barrage from Sevilla to take a point after being re-

duced to 10 men when defender Fernando Navarro was sent off in the 36th minute.

Mallorca's Victor guided home Tuni's cross after 34 minutes but visiting striker Kepa levelled with a close-range header three minutes later.

Sevilla hit the woodwork twice and created a host of chances although they were unable to add to their three successive victories.

Real Zaragoza 1 — Malaga 1

Zaragoza picked up their seventh draw in 10 league outings after letting slip an early lead. Midfielder Cani stole the ball off Malaga defender Vicente Valcarce and set up Brazilian Ewerthon to score after 12 minutes.

Malaga struck back in spectacular style when Portuguese forward Edgar let fly with a 25-metre shot.

Valencia 1 — Racing Santander 1

Racing's Israeli keeper Dudu Auoate was in inspired form as he denied Valencia three points.

Valencia midfielder David Albelda netted with a magnificent dipping volley after 13 minutes but David Aganzo levelled after a flowing move on 29.

Racing's Brazilian midfielder Felipe Melo was sent off after 64 minutes.

MNA/Reuters

Late own goal keeps Velez in touch with Boca Juniors

BUENOS AIRES, 1 Nov— Velez Sarsfield kept up the pressure on Argentine championship leaders Boca Juniors when a late own goal gifted them a 2-1 victory at Gimnasia-Jujuy on Sunday.

Gimnasia's Marcelo Berza deflected Ariel Broggi's cross into his own net with nine minutes remaining to keep the defending champions one point behind Boca in second place.

Midfielder Emanuel Centurion put Velez ahead with a 52nd minute penalty, but the team from Argentina's far north

appeared to have earned a draw when Franco Sosa headed the equalizer seven minutes later. Gimnasia had midfielder Maximiliano Salas sent off for a second bookable offence in the 72nd minute.

Boca, who have 27 points from 12 games, stayed top with an unimpressive 2-1 win over struggling Newell's Old Boys on Saturday thanks to Rodrigo Palacio's second half winner.

Federico Insua put Boca ahead in the 33rd minute but Newell's, who are 19th in the 20-team table, levelled when Fernando Belluschi lobbed the ball over goalkeeper Roberto Abbondanzieri from Ariel Ortega's pass.—MNA/Reuters

Osasuna return to top, Ronaldinho boosts Barca

MADRID, 1 Nov— Osasuna returned to the top of the Primera Liga with a 2-0 home win over Espanyol on Sunday while the inspirational Ronaldinho helped to push champions Barcelona up to second after a 5-0 rout of Real Sociedad.

Brazilian playmaker Ronaldinho scored twice after setting up Dutch midfielder Mark van Bommel for the opening goal.

Carles Puyol and Swedish striker Henrik Larsson were also on target at the Nou Camp. Sociedad had striker Gari Uranga sent off after 69 minutes.

Osasuna lead with 21 points, two clear of Barcelona and three ahead of Real Madrid who beat Real Betis 2-0 on Saturday.

Espanyol's Cameroon keeper Carlos Kameni had a game to forget and was at fault for both Osasuna goals.

After 29 minutes, David Lopez's cross-cum-shot from the right flank seemed to be covered when Kameni caught it under the bar.

But the linesman flagged for a goal after Kameni's momentum appeared to carry him and the ball over the line.

Kameni then air-kicked a harmless ball in his area after 71 minutes, allowing Pierre Webo to collect and square for Inaki Munoz to score.

Fourth-placed Getafe lost 1-0 at Deportivo Coruna, Diego Tristan netting after 25 minutes.

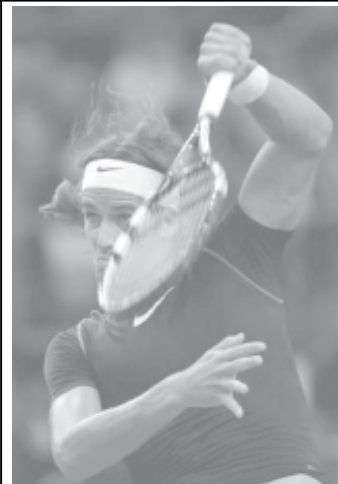
Getafe are level with Celta Vigo on 17 points but have a superior goal difference.

Celta drew 1-1 at bottom club Athletic Bilbao on Saturday.

Villarreal, Sevilla, Deportivo Coruna, Valencia and Real Sociedad have 16 points.

Ronaldinho picked out van Bommel's late run to the edge of the area after 18 minutes and the Dutchman rifled a volley into the corner of the net.

The Brazilian doubled the lead in the 36th minute, playing a one-two with van Bommel before firing a vicious low shot inside the post.—MNA/Reuters



Feliciano Lopez of Spain returns a volley to Xavier Malisse of Belgium during their first round match in the Paris Masters Series tournament on 31 October 2005. Lopez won 4-6 7-6

6-4.—INTERNET

Expert says China to become world's No 1 automaker by 2020

Xi'AN, 1 Nov — An economist has said China's auto industry is to experience rapid growth in the coming 15 years and the country will become the world's largest automaker by 2020.

"China's per capita GDP has topped 1,000 US dollars, which means a growing number of Chinese citizens will be able to afford private cars and the auto industry will outgrow the country's GDP," said Dr Feng Fei, an economist with the Development Research Centre of the State Council, the Chinese Cabinet.

China's auto output hit 5.07 million units in 2004, ranking fourth among the world's largest automakers following the United States, Japan and Germany.

Dr Feng said China's auto production is set to hit 6 million units this year, 9.6 to 10 million in 2010 and 14 to 15 million in 2020.

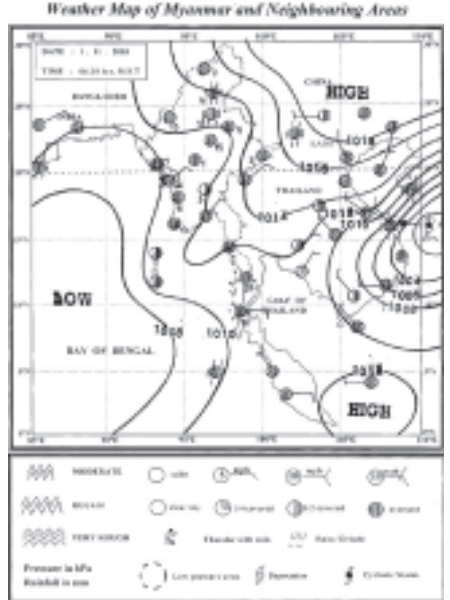
"By then, China will become the world's No 1

auto consumer and producer, too. Added value yielded by the automaking sector will make up two to 2.3 per cent of the country's GDP, up from 1.6 per cent in 2004," Dr Feng said at a recent forum on the outlook of the Chinese economy in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

He said China still lags behind the developed

countries in the auto industry. "In Germany and the United States, for example, the auto industry contributes 8 per cent and 3 per cent respectively to their GDP". China's auto sector currently faces three major problems: lack of competition and coordination in the domestic market that weakens the competitiveness of the entire industry, lack of innovation and excess reliance on oil imports, he said. As a result, Feng said China should develop more economical cars in the coming decades to maximize fuel efficiency amid climbing oil prices.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Tuesday, 1 November, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayin, Mon States and Yangon Division, scattered in Shan and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Magway, Ayeeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfalls in Taninthayi Division and isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine State. Night temperature were (3 to 4°C) below normal in Chin State, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (3 to 4°C) above normal in Kayah and Mon States, (5 to 6°C) above normal in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myeik (3.36) inches, Kyaukpyu (3.07) inches, Kawthong (3.03) inches, Bago (2.20) inches, Hinthada (2.01) inches, Pyay (1.89) inches, Heho (1.65) inches, Kyaukse (1.22) inches, Sagaing (0.71) inch, Mandalay (0.59) inch, Shwebo (0.39) inch, Magway (0.32) inch and Kyaukpataung (0.25) inch.

Maximum temperature on 31-10-2005 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 1-11-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 1-11-2005 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 31-10-2005 was (7.1) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 1-11-2005 were (0.43 inch) at Mingaladon, nil at Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (100.63) inches at Mingaladon, (100.08) inches at Kaba-Aye and (104.80) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southwest at (10:30) hours MST on 31-10-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the Central Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Special Features: According to the observations at (09:30)hrs MST today, yesterday's Typhoon 'KAI TAK' over South China Sea has downgraded into a tropical storm, it is centred about (160) miles Southeast of 'Danang', Vietnam and forecast to move West-Nortwest wards.

Forecast valid until evening of 2-11-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Division and isolated to scattered in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate to rough in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of isolated rain or thundershowers in the upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 2-11-2005: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 2-11-2005:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Untimely Rainfall Warning

(Issued at 11:30 hours MST on 1st November, 2005)
According to the observations at (09:30)hours MST today, as a consequence of the cloud moving East wards from the North Bay, isolated to scattered rain or thundershowers are likely in Chin, Northern Rakhine and Shan States, Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions during the next (48)hours commencing noon today.



South Korean pedestrians are reflected on a stock index board in downtown Seoul, on Tuesday, 1 Nov, 2005.

INTERNET



Wednesday, 2 November
Tune in today

- 8.30 am Brief news
- 8.35 am Music:
- 8.40 am Perspectives
- 8.45 am Music:
-Baby baby
- 8.50 am National news/
Slogan
- 9:00 am Music:
-You belong to me
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music:
-Cotton eye
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Lunch time music
-The best thing
-Wind beneath my wings
-Call it love
-Here I go
- 9:00 pm Variations on a tune "Jamaica Farewell
-Nina & Frederick Brother Four
-Michiko Hamamura
- 9:15 pm Article/Music
- 9:25 pm Music at your request
-To be with you
-Can you hear me
-Best friend
-Miss you like crazy
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm PEL



Wednesday, 2 November
View on today

- 7:00 am
- 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာ နာယကအဖွဲ့အစည်းတော်ဆောင်ရွက် အဘိဓမ္မဟာရဋ္ဌာရုံ အဘိဓမ္မအရာမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မစာတိက တီပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
- 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
- 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
- 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:50 am
- 5. အထီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:00 am
- 6. မြားမြားကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက
- 8:10 am
- 7. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am
- 8. ဝိုင်တူးရေထိန်းတံခါး
- 8:30 am
- 9. International news
- 8:45 am
- 10. Let's Go
- 3:50 pm
- 1. နိုင်ငံတကာမိတ်ခေါ်ဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲ တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှု အစီအစဉ် (မြန်မာလူ့ဘောလုံးအသင်းနှင့်ဘင်္ဂလားဒေ့ရှ် ဘောလုံးအဖွဲ့ချုပ်လက်စွဲစဉ် အသင်း)
- 5:45 pm
- 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 6:00 pm
- 3. ရွှေယံစုံလင်အာရုံစိတ်အစီအစဉ်
- 6:10 pm
- 4. သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညွှတ်ရင်
- 6:30 pm
- 5. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
- 6. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
- 7. Variety spectacular
- 7:30 pm
- 8. ဆဋ္ဌမအကြိမ် မြန်မာ့ဂိုဏ်းရင်းဆေးသမားတော်များညီလာခံ
- 7:45 pm
- 9. ကြားဖြင့် သုတပြည့်ဝစေရာ စာပဒေသာ
- 8:00 pm
- 10. News
- 11. International news
- 12. Weather report
- 13. ၂၀၀၅-ခုနှစ် တေရသမအကြိမ် (သုကြွမ်) မြန်မာ့ဂိုဏ်းရင်းဆေးမှု အဆိုအက အရေး အထီးပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုချီးမြှင့်ပွဲနှင့် ဝဏ္ဏာဂင်ကြီးများ အက်ပြတ်ပိုင်များနှင့် မျိုးဆက်သစ်တို့၏ ရေပုံဖြေမှု အစီအစဉ်
- 14. The next day's programme

Making use of communications and technologies and media, some big nations attempting to dominate youth Waging propaganda campaign that Myanmar culture, national cause are outdated

Preserve good legacies of Myanmar performing arts, organize people to vitalize patriotism

YANGON, 1 Nov—The following is the translation of an address delivered by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein at the prize presentation ceremony of the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street here today.

I wish State level officials, specially invited guests, diplomats and officials of UN agencies, judges and contestants “auspiciousness” and to be able to strive for preservation and promotion of national culture to enhance dignity of the nation in the world.

The successful holding of the first to the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions has produced sound results of development in preserving and promoting the national cultural heritage and reinvigorating and strengthening national characters, alongside vitalization of nationalistic fervour, patriotism and Union Spirit.

The year-by-year progress of the Performing Arts Competitions is the result of the government and people’s encouragement together with the spirit and

qualifications of the doyen artistes and contestants to value, preserve and promote traditional culture.

Culture is the core and jewel of a human society. The cultural essence of a society will determine its value.

“Standing firm as a nation in the international community requires the characteristics — territory, citizens, government and sovereignty”, said a definition. Moreover, culture indicates the standard of the national traits, value and standard.

The natural means of improving the standard of modes of dresses, acts, thoughts and behaviour in a more cultural way is through the preservation and uplift of the national culture.

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Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivers an address at the prize presentation ceremony of the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.—MNA

Winners of 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions awarded



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents first prize to Maung Aung Kyi Phyho of Kachin State. —MNA

YANGON, 1 Nov — The prize presentation ceremony of the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions was held this morning at National Theatre in Dagon Township.

Patron of the Leading Committee for organizing the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein attended the ceremony and presented prizes to winners.

The ceremony was also attended by Daw Khin Than Nwe, Wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Daw Khin

Win, Wife of the Secretary-1, members of the leading committee, Chairman of the leading committee for organizing the competitions Commander of the Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife, the ministers, the chief-justice, the attorney-general and high ranking officials, ambassadors and diplomats and officials of UN agencies.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen

Thein Sein awarded the winners of the men’s classical song contests. In the men’s professional level classical song contest, Yangon Than Swe of Yangon Division, Maung Po Lay (a) Myo Min Win of Mon State and U Hla Than of Magway Division stood first, second and third respectively. U San Lwin of Rakhine State, Sai Nyo Min of Shan State and Maung

Pyai Phyto Linn of Taninthayi Division stood first, second and third prizes respectively in the men’s amateur level classical song contest.

Maung Aung Kyi Soe of Kachin State, Maung Than Myat Soe of Sagaing Division and Maung Min Min Than of Shan State won first, second and third prizes in the boys’ higher education (See page 10)

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When my thought stopped, an idea struck to my mind that all the national people who want to see the nation prosperous should enthusiastically join the Union Solidarity and Development Association.

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TEKKATHO MYAT THU