

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

Ovada sought from Sayadaws of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee
Monks are to follow Vinaya rules of the Buddha, rules and regulations and instructions
If they breach any one of those orders action may be taken against them



Director of Yangon Division General Administration Department U Hla Soe supplicates matters related to religious affairs to Sayadaws of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (All Ganas). — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct — A ceremony to seek ovada from Sayadaws of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (All Ganas) was held at Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Sudhamma) in Bahan Township, Yangon, yesterday afternoon.

Director of Yangon Division Administration Department U Hla Soe supplicated on religious matters saying violent disturbances occurred in some townships of Yangon Division due to some members of the Sangha and laypersons.

During the disturbances, monks of the monasteries who did not take part in the disturbances faced threats and insulting group throwing bottled water at their monasteries. Troublemakers committed assaults even on eminent monks.

(See page 7)

Leader of Spokes Authoritative Team of the State Peace and Development Council Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan receives scholars of Friedrich Ebert Foundation

FES scholars tour Shan State (North), Yeywa hydel project in Mandalay Division

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct — Scholars of Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) headed by Dr P Christian Hauswedell went on a study tour of development achievements of Laukkai of Special Region No 1 and Kaungkha of Special Region No 5 in Shan State (North), Muse 105th-mile border trade station, the gateway to the People's Republic of China and trade

businesses in Muse, and Yeywa hydroelectric power generation project in Kyaukse Township in Mandalay Division on 1 and 2 October.

The FES scholars together with local and foreign journalists arrived in Laukkai in Special region No 1 in Shan State (North) on 1 October morning.

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INSIDE

Control yourselves with awareness

I would like to remind you that you will lose your monkhood like the monk I have presented if you keep on doing wrong acts, relying on the made-up stories manufactured and aired by internal and external destructive elements and BBC, VOA, RFA and DVB who you have never seen and met, who have never done any good deeds in the interests of the Sasana, and who are hatching plots to destroy the interests of the lay persons who offer four kinds of requisites to you every day.

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A VILLAGE MONK

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 7 October, 2007

People's harmonious cooperation lies at heart of national development tasks

Border areas of Myanmar once lagged behind other parts in development, resulting from lack of peace and stability and poor transport. So, the government is paying serious attention to progress of national races in far-flung areas to foster national solidarity.

The government is now speeding up the building of infrastructures for ensuring equitable development of all regions of the nation in the economic, education and health sectors. Now is the Age of Knowledge. With this context, it upgraded all colleges in the 24 special development regions into universities on 20 January 2007 for enabling the youth of border areas to have an easy access to higher education.

In addition, the government, with the aim of sharpening the abilities of national race youths, established national race youths development training centres, Union Nationalities Youths Development Colleges where they can pursue higher education, border areas technical training centres, and vocational training centres in border areas. So, national race youths have enjoyed opportunities to pursue education in their own regions.

In the meantime, it is encouraging and rendering assistance to the agriculture, economic and public relations sectors of border areas, resulting in cumulative progress.

Besides hospitals, clinics, rural health care centres and sub-rural health care centres, it has now constructed a 200-bed hospital in each development region to improve the health standard of people in border areas.

Therefore, at a time when the government is expediting national development tasks, the people should participate with zest and zeal in the tasks for greater progress of the entire nation including border areas.



U Khin Maung Tint (deceased), (deputy director-general) of the Ministry of Education and wife Daw Tin Tin Aye family recently donated K 100,000 to the Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Joint-Secretary U Thein Aung of the Home.—H

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

Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport meets



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win addresses the meeting of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport.—MNA

YANGON, 6 Oct—The Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Smooth and Secure Transport held its work coordinating meeting at the meeting hall of Yangon Command this afternoon with an address by Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win.

In his address, Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win stressed the need for officials to assess the weaknesses in rule enforcement as there have been the driving of vehicles and motorcycles without licenses. He added that farming work is being carried out in such areas as U-to, Nyaunhnatin,

Hmawby, Bago, Hnawgon for the people to be able to consume meat and vegetables in abundance. Hence, transport along the road leading to those areas needs to be upgraded in the coming open season, he said.

He said that efforts are being made to upgrade the roads leading to universities and colleges as soon as possible. At the same time, the safety of waterways is to be carried out, he said.

Next, officials from universities and colleges, departmental officials and chairmen of the respective private bus lines took part in the discussions.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the commander.—MNA

World Teachers Day observed

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct— A ceremony to mark World Teachers Day 2007 was held at the Ministry of Education, here, this morning with an address by Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein. The minister presented awards to four honorary teachers and one outstanding teacher.

Present on the occasion were ministers, the chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, representatives of NGOs, honorary teachers and outstanding teacher, teachers of university, college, science and basic education schools and guests.

Ninth graders Ma Myat Mi Mi Khin and Ma Khaing Hsu Thwe of Nay Pyi Taw Basic Education High School No 1 acted as masters of ceremonies. The ceremony was opened with a song by students of Nay Pyi Taw No 5 BEHS.

Next, the minister delivered a speech. Later, Rector of Yangon University of Foreign Languages Dr Myo Myint read out the message on World Teachers Day.

Next, students of No 6 BEHS, Nay Pyi Taw, sang a song to honour teachers.

Afterwards, Director-General U Bo Win of Education Planning and Training Department presented educational tasks carried out by four honorary teachers and one outstanding teacher.

Minister Dr Chan Nyein presented certificates of honour to Retired Professor U Tun Aung Chein of Yangon University and Retired Professor U Ba Toak of Yangon Institute of Technology. Officials also presented certificates of honour to Retired Director U Than Shwe of Basic Education Department and Retired Presi-



Minister Dr Chan Nyein presents certificate of honour to an honorary teacher.—MNA

dent Dr Khin Maung Kywe of Myanmar Education Research Bureau and outstanding teacher Daw Kyi Kyi Win of No 40 BEPS, Shwepyitha of Yangon Division.

Next, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi presented prizes to winners of competitions to mark World Teachers Day.

The ceremony ended with a song by students of No 1 BEMS Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana. After the ceremony the guests viewed the booth displayed in commemoration of World Teachers Day. — MNA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Italian agent wounded in Afghan rescue dies

ROME, 5 Oct—An Italian intelligence agent who was kidnapped last month in Afghanistan and wounded during a NATO-led raid that freed him died on Thursday, the Defence Ministry said.

Lorenzo D'Auria, 33, was one of two Italian agents briefly abducted by captors who NATO identified as Taleban.

The two were freed by Italian and British special

forces. But D'Auria suffered gunshot wounds in his head and neck and had to be put on a respirator soon after his release.

The other Italian was also wounded in the raid, although not seriously. Both were flown back to Italy for hospital treatment.

The kidnapping and circumstances of the rescue prompted new calls by leftist members of

Prime Minister Romano Prodi's government to withdraw Italy's troops from Afghanistan.

Prodi, who said he authorized the rescue mission "without a moment of uncertainty", has insisted the incident would not affect Italy's military mission there.

The Italians were abducted while on patrol in the country's western region on 22 September. They were freed two days later after a gunbattle in which eight kidnappers were killed.

MNA/Reuters

16 villages under ashes after Philippine volcano explosion

MANILA, 5 Oct—Ashes covered at least 16 villages in eastern Philippines after a local volcano exploded twice early Thursday morning, local media reported.

The two explosions of Bulusan Volcano, in eastern province of Sorsogon, occurred at 1:34 am and 1:39 am on Thursday (1534 GMT and 1739 GMT, Wednesday), the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* quoted Bella Tubianosa, resident volcanologist of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, as saying in an online report.

But no measurement of the height was unknown due to weak visibility, she said.

Bulusan Mayor Johnny Guysayko told the paper that ash fall was experienced in most of the town's villages. At least two residents were hospitalized due to ash inhalation.—MNA/Xinhua

A villager uses a raft to cross the river of mud which has flooded Sidoarjo, Indonesia's East Java Province, on 5 Oct, 2007. Scientists say they may never find the exact trigger for the continuing eruption of noxious-smelling mud from the ground that began on 29 May, 2006 and has since forced about 15,000 people to leave.—INTERNET



A relative of one of the two slain armored car guards is met by police as she arrives to visit the scene outside a bank in Philadelphia, on 5 Oct, 2007. After a day of searching, authorities had few leads and only a sketchy description of a robber who shot and killed two armored car guards at a bank ATM on Thursday.

INTERNET



US official says CIA detention programme remains active

WASHINGTON, 5 Oct—A secret CIA overseas detention programme revealed by President George W Bush last year remains active and has held at least one al-Qaeda militant since then, a US official said on Thursday.

The official confirmed the detention as the White House skirted around the question of whether the agency had resumed holding prisoners at secret sites and insisted that the United States does not torture. *The New York Times* reported on Thursday that the CIA was again holding prisoners at

"black sites" overseas, and that the Justice Department under then-Attorney General Alberto Gonzales had issued a secret opinion in 2005 that endorsed the harshest interrogation techniques ever used by the CIA.

"The ongoing existence of the CIA programme is extremely troubling," especially in light of the reported Justice Depart-

ment opinion, said Elisa Massimino, Washington director of the advocacy group Human Rights First.

The detention and interrogation programme, first revealed by *The Washington Post* in late 2005 and then acknowledged by Bush in September 2006, has provoked an international outcry, with critics accusing the administration of secretly

using torture to interrogate terrorism suspects.

Bush said all 14 high-level terrorism suspects held at that time had been transferred to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. But the Defence Department said in April it had taken custody of a suspected al-Qaeda leader who had previously spent months in CIA hands

MNA/Reuters

Gunmen kidnap ten in Diyala Province in N-E of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 5 Oct—Gunmen kidnapped 10 civilians while travelling by a minibus in the volatile province of Diyala on Wednesday, a provincial police source said.

"Unknown gunmen at a faked checkpoint stopped a minibus in the al-Ghalbiyah area, some 40

kilometres northeast of Baghdad, and kidnapped nine passengers and their driver," the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

The kid-napped people were on their way from Kirkuk to Baghdad that passes through the Diyala Province when the

incident took place, the source said.

Diyala Province, which stretches from the eastern edges of Baghdad to the Iranian border to the east, has been the hot bed of insurgency and sectarian violence since the US-led invasion in 2003.

MNA/Xinhua

Fire plane crashes in Istanbul

ANKARA, 5 Oct—A fire plane crashed in a lake in Istanbul province of Turkey on Thursday, injuring three crew members, Istanbul Governor Muammer Guler said. Guler said in a statement that the fire plane crashed during a reconnaissance flight in Lake Catalca Durusu some 20 metres off the shore and the three injured — a Turkish, an Italian and a Greek — were rushed to nearby hospitals for treatment.

The Turkish member of the crew was under medical attention in Istanbul's International Hospital and he was in critical condition, Guler said.

The Italian and the Greek crew members were taken to Catalca State Hospital and their conditions were not critical, Guler added. —MNA/Xinhua

Italian patrols rescue more boat immigrants

ROME, 5 Oct—A fresh wave of boat immigrants landed in Italy on Thursday, bringing the number of arrivals in two days to nearly 700, Italian news agency ANSA said on Thursday.

Italian patrols rescued 350 people over the course of the day, including 12 women and a newborn baby.

The first vessel arrived at Italy's southernmost island of Lampedusa in

the early hours of the morning, with 215 people crammed into a 15-metre boat.

A Navy patrol rescued a further 65 people on a dinghy 70 miles south of the island.

The migrants themselves used a satellite phone to radio for help after losing control of the vessel in rough seas.

Later on Thursday, the same Navy ship rescued a further 70 would-be

immigrants, including women and children, 90 miles southeast of the island.

So far, the nationalities on board the three boats have been identified as Egyptian, Tunisian, Moroccan, Iranian and Ghanaian, although border police are still carrying out checks.

All the travellers have been taken to a reception centre on Lampedusa.

MNA/Xinhua



More than 100,000 people from across the country gathered at Tian'anmen Square in Beijing to watch the national flag raising ceremony, on 1 Oct, 2007, the 58th National Day of the People's Republic of China.

XINHUA



Associated Press writer Glenn Adams takes a leap of 47 metres, 154 feet, from The Ledge bungee platform, on a mountain 400 feet above the city of Queenstown, New Zealand's adventure capital. The gondola ride up the mountain — and bungee jump — both afford breathtaking views of Lake Wakatipu. — INTERNET

At least 23 killed as plane crashes in Kinshasa

KINSHASA, 5 Oct— At least 23 people died when a Russian-made cargo plane crashed and exploded on Thursday in a teeming neighbourhood of Kinshasa, the capital of Democratic Republic of Congo, officials said.

The ageing Antonov 26 twin-propeller aircraft belonging to Congolese Airline Africa One plunged onto houses in the Kingasani District shortly after taking off from nearby Ndjili International Airport on an internal flight.

"There were five crew and thirteen passengers on the plane. Nobody escaped alive: they were all incinerated," Transport Minister Remy Henri Kuseyo told Reuters. At least three of the crew were Ukrainian, according to the plane's manifest.

The minister said at least two women and a man were killed on the ground when the plane ploughed into the crowded area and burst into flames.

A Reuters witness also saw one man discover the bodies of two of his children, a boy and girl, crushed by a wall, as distraught relatives poured over the blackened rubble. — MNA/Reuters

Hijackers seize cargo plane in northern Somalia

BOSASSO (Somalia), 5 Oct— Gunmen in Somalia's northeastern Puntland Province hijacked a cargo plane carrying khat, a narcotic leaf, on Thursday after a business deal turned sour, a local official said.

The attackers seized the plane, which had come from Ethiopia, in Puntland's port of Bosasso. They then flew 150 kilometres (90 miles) west to another coastal town, Las Qorey, the chairman of the area, Muse Gelle Farole, told Reuters.

"There was a conflict between the businesspeople that brought the khat to Bosasso, so one group of them hijacked the plane and made it land at Las Qorey," he said.

Commonly chewed across the Horn of Africa Region, khat is especially popular in Somalia where planes arrive daily from neighbouring countries with the lucrative commodity.

Known for its relative stability in a country mired in chaos since the 1991 ousting of a dictator, semi-autonomous Puntland has nevertheless suffered a spate of pirate attacks off its coast in recent months.

It was not known how many people were on board the plane.—MNA/Reuters

China, Vietnam evacuate thousands as storm strikes

HANOI, 4 Oct— China and Vietnam evacuated hundreds of thousands of people from low-lying coastal areas on Wednesday as Typhoon Lekima lashed the region with torrential rains and heavy winds.

The storm passed over the central Vietnam province of Quang Binh on Wednesday night and blew westward toward Laos, officials said. They said the storm hit relatively under-populated areas but they would not know the extent of damage until Thursday.

The typhoon made landfall late on Tuesday near China's beach resort of Sanya, on the southern tip of tropical Hainan Island, trapping tourists and forcing the evacuation of 225,000 people.

Vietnam had moved hundreds of thousands of children and the elderly to higher ground.

More than 20,000 fishing boats were ordered back to port as the storm shut down almost all tourist attractions in Sanya during what should have been a peak national holiday week. — MNA/Reuters



A rhinoceros rests in the water at Chobe National Park in Botswana, on 24 Sept, 2007.—XINHUA

US in Iraq says finds list of foreign fighters

BAGHDAD, 4 Oct— The US military said on Wednesday it had discovered a list of some 500 al-Qaeda militants recruited to fight in Iraq from a range of European, Middle East and north African countries.

Spokesman Major-General Kevin Bergner said the information was unearthed in September when a senior al-Qaeda in Iraq member, called Muthanna, was killed along with seven other militants near Sinjar in northwest Iraq.

The US military blames fighters recruited outside Iraq for many of the suicide attacks targeting US and Iraqi forces and has previously criticized neighbours such as Syria for not checking the flow of foreign militants across borders into Iraq.

"Muthanna was the emir of Iraq and Syrian border area and he was a key facility of the movement of foreign terrorists once they crossed into Iraq from Syria. He worked closely with Syrian-based al-Qaeda foreign terrorist facilitators," he said. —MNA/Reuters

Control yourselves with awareness

A Village Monk

I heard from my lay disciples that some members of the Sangha in certain townships joined the so-called "88" generation students and NLDs to stage protests. First, I did not hear anything about the said news as I had no radio. Once I had a pocket radio donated by a layperson. Sometimes, I listened to foreign news, but I learned only the fabrications with the intention of breaking up the Union. I was tired of those foreign news reports as I did not gain any knowledge from them, instead they were poisoning my mind. At that time another monk asked me to donate the radio to him. I agreed.

As I wished to know whether the news on the monk protests in some towns was true or not, I asked my young disciples to borrow some newspapers from my close laypersons. I got newspapers but some of the issues were missing. When I read them, I came to know that some members of the Sangha, bogus monks, some NLDs and the so-called "88" generation students were staging protests together.

Members of the Sangha who joined the noisy protesters, I do not think you know about the true incident that occurred 19 years ago or you were not born yet then. I said so as I assume that the ones who took part in the disturbances are young monks and senior and junior novice monks. I think most of you have only three or four vasa now. So most of you were only four-year-old or five-year-old boys when the 1988 unrest broke out.

I am a monk with 20 vasa. I was a 20-year-old monk who was going to attain the second vasa when the unrest erupted. As anarchy-like violence ruled the nation, people had to live in fear and could not

offer alms and other necessities to monks. As there was shortage of alms and other necessities at monasteries in towns, some monks were misled by destructionists into taking part in the unrest. As the abbot monks told their disciple monks to return home during the time, I had to leave my Pariyatti school. As my native place is a village, I could not learn advanced religious education. It was a sheer waste of time. Because of the unrest, I was not able to take the Pathamabyan examination.

As a lesson for all of you, I would like to present a true event. A young monk, who was my close companion, took part in the unrest. His monastery was adjacent to mine. The young monk was intelligent and always tried hard in his religious studies. But he had a fault. He was self-opinionated and emotional. Apart from Pitaka literature, he never read any other books whether it might be a periodical or cartoon.

He was organized and deceived by bogus monks of sham organizations such as Young Monks and Sangha Samaggi. He was tall and plump and so conspicuous during the unrest. The destructionists were flattering him who had only two vasa as if he were a senior monk.

At the time, the young monk was holding a sword and wearing his robes in an untidy way. He was a member of an association called Galonni or Nagani, as well as township in-charge of the unlawful association of Sangha Maggi. In the unrest, he acted as patron of many organizations. In the ward, the dwellers were afraid of him, so they were trying to win his favour. Then, he became much conceited. In the end, he decided to discard the robes of the

religious order due to the encouragement of destructive elements.

When the Tatmadaw took up State duties, he fled to a border area. There, he got married to a woman who was also a democracy activist.

Then, he passed away. He lost his noble monkhood and his life for he threw himself to the destructive acts instead of keeping on discharging religious duties.

I wonder how many such monks and novices took the wrong path and discarded their robes of the religious order in the "8-8-1988 unrest". So, I am writing for such monks and novices to take lessons from the above-mentioned story.

I would like to present some notable points for your knowledge. Internal and external destructive elements are seeking their interests at the expense of the Sasana. They instigated and abetted many monks who were carrying out Pariyatti (learning the Teachings of the Buddha), and Patipatti (meditation) religious duties, so many monks took to the streets. Then, they came to get involved in destructive and violent acts.

So-called "88" generation student group members and some persons of the NLD organized students, workers and people at first. However, the people who witnessed the incidents in the 1988 unrest in which mobs beheaded many people before the public in busy places and who wanted to lead a peaceful life, did not accept unrest and violence and managed to resist the political instigation.

They came to notice that their organizing the people did not work at all. Thus, they targeted young monks who neither had much knowledge about nor took interest in social and political affairs, who concentrated only on Pariyatti and Patipatti, and who did not witness the 1988 unrest.

I would like to remind you that you will lose your monkhood like the monk I have presented if you keep on doing wrong acts, relying on the made-up stories manufactured and aired by internal and external destructive elements and BBC, VOA, RFA and DVB who you have never seen and met, who have never done any good deeds in the interests of the Sasana, and who are hatching plots to destroy the interests of the lay persons who offer four kinds of requisites to you every day.

I would like to suggest that you work hard in the religious duties of Gantha Dhura and Vipassana Dhura in response to the generosity of the lay persons who encourage the race and the Sasana in peace.

(Translation: TMT + MS)

Kyemon: 4-10-2007

So-called "88" generation student group members and some persons of the NLD organized students, workers and people at first. However, the people who witnessed the incidents in the 1988 unrest in which mobs beheaded many people before the public in busy places and who wanted to lead a peaceful life, did not accept unrest and violence and managed to resist the political instigation.

Cornerstone laid for construction of Yangon Children's Hospital annexe

YANGON, 6 Oct — A ceremony to lay cornerstone of Yangon Children's Hospital annexe was held at the hospital this morning.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony.

Medical Superintendent Dr Aung Kyi Win of the hospital reported on building of the hospital annexe.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe laid a casket and a brick at the designated places. Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win, Minister for Electric Power No 1 Col Zaw Min, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Yangon Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and wellwishers laid the bricks at the

designated places.

At the cash donation ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe made a speech, saying that the government has formed the national health committee to improve the health sector of the State. Measures are to be taken systematically through the national health project.

Based on the national health policies, the Ministry of Health is providing health care services for the entire people. Owing to concerted efforts of the government, life expectancy of the people has improved.

In addition, more health infrastructures have been built throughout the Union. Health preventive

measures, uplift of health standard of the people, cure and rehabilitation have been carried out.

There were 631 hospitals built in 1988. At present, there have been 834 health facilities across the nation. Each 200-bed hospital has been opened in the 24 special development region.

The children's hospital was put into operation in 1978 and built at a cost of K 18 million. It was upgraded into the 550-bed one in 2006.

Besides, cash donation was made to the hospital funds for the patients on 11 July, 2007.

For the construction of the hospital annexe, a stake driving ceremony was held on 16 July, 2007. And the wellwishers are



Lt-Gen Myint Swe accepts cash donation from the wellwishers.

MNA

thanked for the donation, he added.

Later, Lt-Gen Myint Swe accepted K 10 million donated by Yangon Division Peace and Development Council from Commander Maj-

Gen Hla Htay Win.

Afterwards, the commander, the ministers and the mayor accepted cash donation from the wellwishers.

The donation amounted to K

321,550,000.

Also present on the occasion were directors-general and deputy directors-general, medical superintendents, professors and donors.

MNA

People of Sagaing, Mandalay Divisions hold mass rallies to denounce recent protests

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct — The people of YeU and Salingyi in Sagaing Division and Singu and Yamethin of Mandalay Division who wish to see stability of the State, the rule of law and community peace and tranquillity regarded recent protests instigated by some monks and NLD members as a threat to peace and stability. So they held mass rallies to denounce such protests on 4 October after seeking permission

form authorities concerned in accord with law.

In YeU, Sagaing Division, some 19,000 people participated in the procession held at 7.30 am on 4 October shouting slogans calling for 'Our Three Main National Causes' and holding placards that read 'We want peace. We don't want terrorists. Guard against internal and external destructive elements. The seven-

step Road Map must be successful. We support the National Convention and the constitution'.

Similarly, more than 7,500 people of Salingyi, Sagaing Division, more than 20,000 people of Singu Township, Mandalay Division, and about 30,000 people of Yamethin Township, Mandalay Division also held mass rallies shouting slogans and holding placards.

MNA



Local residents participating in the mass rally in Yamethin.—MNA



Local people in Salingyi taking part in the mass rally.—MNA

Holding date for 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions announced

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct — The 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions will be held on a grand scale as from 16 October in Nay Pyi Taw.

The welcoming

ceremony will be held at 4 pm on 16 October at the City Hall, the opening ceremony at 8 am on 17 October at the same venue, the prize presentation ceremony at 1 pm on 1 November and the ceremony to present

certificates of honour in conjunction with dinner at 5.30 pm on 2 November at the same venues. The competitions will take place from 17 to 29 October at the designated places in Yezin University Campus.—MNA

Ovada sought from Sayadaws of...

(from page 1)

The Minister for Religious Affairs presented the true events to State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee on 24 September 2007. The committee issued Directive No 93 the same day prohibiting all acts that violate Vinaya (discipline).

Yangon Division GAD imposed section 144 (curfew) in townships it deemed necessary in Yangon Division the next day. Disturbance-makers and some members of the Sangha organized and deceived by a certain party and other troublesome so-called '88' generation students, and bogus monks specially kept for causing unrest in defiance of curfew ganged together to incite unrest.

Security forces responsible for enforcing peace and stability and the rule of law in Yangon Division systematically restored the situation in accord with the law. But the violent protesters ganged up on security personnel and even tried to grab their weapons.

All the people including members of the religious order must observe laws enacted or issued by the State.

According to objective information, witnesses and other evidences, security forces had to carry out search of Ngwe Kyayan Pariyatti Sarthintaik, Dhamma Zeya, Shwetaungmaw and Satilayama monasteries in South Okkalapa Township, Dhammathukha monastery in Tamway Township, Moegaung monastery in Yankin Township, Meggin, Kyauksataw Ashe, Pynnya Tagon, Dhamma Waipula and Shwekyin Taikthit monasteries in Thingangyun Township, Mingalayama and Pynnya Yamika monasteries in Botahtaung Township, Sasana Theikpan and Sasana Gonyi monasteries in Bahan Township, Takkathila Zeyathikdi Pahtan monastery in Dagon (East) Township, Thirizeya and Pandisayama monasteries in North Okkalapa Township, totalling 18 monasteries where U Gambhira, U Vicitta, U Obhasa, U Pakata, U Kovida, U Ottara, U Khanti, U Kusala, U Aggavamsa, U Neminda, U Nanataja, U Ottama, U Sinninda, U Janinda, U Kusala, Shin Gandra, U Vunnasara, U Tejaniya, U Kontinna, U Jatiya, U Candavara, U Kevala, U Soman, U Acitta, U Pannajota, U Kosalla, U Pannavamsa, U Nandobhasa and U Catila, who led, generated, participated and supported the disturbances were residing, due to unavoidable circumstances.

In the raid, the members could not differentiate between monks and novices and bogus ones. So, they took 513 monks, one novice, 167 men and 30 women for questioning.

It is regrettable that the operation revealed that in some monasteries, women sleep in the buildings where monks reside, and the members found 42 uncensored pornographic VCDs, one uncensored pornographic DVD, three pornographic books, two pornographic wall sheets, four pornographic photos, a Kama Siddhi treatise, a photo of a woman, 10 condoms, one sexual tonic medicine sachet, dildo (with belt), one statuette of a woman and a man hugging each other, 13 women's wear longyis (sarongs), eight panties, one purse, a love letter, perfume/glycerin bottles, men's wear longyis, T-shirts, Jeans, two cordless phones, three loan agreements, one men's wear Rolex wrist watch, 10 alcohol bottles, one 9mm pistol round of ammunition,

18 different kinds of swords, three wooden nanchatkus, one axe, six wooden rods, one iron rod, 13 catapults, documents about lists of bets, 30 booklets featuring football match fixtures and documents about football match bets, documents, ledgers and receipts about two-digit and three-digit illegal lotteries, three sets of playing cards, one anti-government poem book titled Thway Mawgun, one paper sheet featuring anti-government letter titled Nyinyut Kya Yin, three paper sheets featuring facts about Myanmar Young Monks Union, one diary dated on 18.9.2007 featuring expressions that Myanmar Young Monks Union made demands to the government, documents about news records and speeches of NLD, one badge of fighting peacock, "88" generation student group's invitation cards for Waso robes donation, one Nazi headband, and two US headbands.

After interrogating those who were taken from the monasteries, up to 5 October, 404 monks, one novice, 158 men and 30 women who were found innocent had been released. Now, 109 monks and nine men are under questioning.

Foreign media and anti-government groups made fabrications that in the incidents, there were casualties of some monks. In reality, only a dead body with a tattoo depicting party political affairs and a yellow robe on his neck was found to be floating in the Pazundaung creek. He was only a bogus monk wearing a yellow robe.

It was found that the internal and external elements did not even spare the monks practising Pariyatti and Patipatti in their monasteries and persuaded them to take to the streets. Their acts were in total disregard of the Sasana and the Buddha's teachings, and they attempted to tarnish the image of Buddha's Sasana and sow discord between the government and the people. As a result, the Sasana as well as the country was affected. So it proved that the destructionists were sticking to the means of confrontation and utter devastation.

As U Gambira, U Vicitta, U Obhasa and U Padaka, who led the instigation to cause disturbances, escaped, the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha are requested to expose bogus monks. Although authorities and security members pay respects to the real monks, they had to take action against those bogus monks trying to tarnish the image of the Sasana in order to ensure community peace and tranquillity, the rule of law and perpetuity of the Sasana. Therefore, the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha who are safeguarding the Sasana are requested to give Ovada.

Later, Chairman of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Shwekyin) Sayadaw of Sasana Alinyaung Monastery in Dawbon Township Bhaddanta Jotika, Chairman of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Muladwara) Sayadaw

of Gandayon Monastery Bhaddanta Jayasena, Chairman of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Weiluwun) Sayadaw of Bilin Monastery in Sangyoung Township Bhaddanta Pannawbhasa and Chairman of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Thudama) Sayadaw of Legaing Monastery in Dalla Township Bhaddanta Ardisavamsa gave the Ovada.

They said that as the security members could not distinguish real monks and novices from bogus ones they had to take monks and novices they had found. But the monks and novices who were found innocent have been released and sent back to their monasteries. Action will be taken against those involved in the violent protests in accord with the law. Those who got involved unwittingly in and those being threatened to join the protests have been released. There was growing concern over rumours that some monasteries will be raided at night. Now, the public concerns have subsided. It is required to expose U Gambhira and some monks who were acting in collusion with such foreign radio stations as BBC, VOA and RFA. And our media need to refute fabricated news aired by foreign media. Officials are to inform the monasteries as to notifications of local authorities in order that those who haven't learnt yet the notifications through the newspapers and televisions may know them. Officials are to strive to get a large number of monks know that only monks who led the protests and bogus monks who were found together with things that have nothing to do with monks were arrested and action was taken against them.

Monks are to follow Vinaya rules of the Buddha, rules and regulations and instructions issued by the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and the law issued by the State. If they breach any one of those orders action may be taken against them. It was pleased that monks had been defrocked during interrogation and then they had been ordained and sent back to their monasteries. The handling of situation during the violent protests and measures taken by officials for purification of the Sasana amounts to serving the interest of the Sasana. Officials are to make continued efforts for perpetuation, purification and propagation of the Sasana. If monks and disciples make concerted efforts it is sure that achievement will be made.

Next, the ceremony ended with the recitation of *Buddha Sasanam Ciram Tithatu*.

Sayadaws of all Ganas of the committee, heads of district GADs, Head of Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department U Soe Naing and district heads and Director of Yangon Division Immigration and National Registration Department U Hla Daung and district heads were present.

MNA

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Experts from FES foundation visits Yeywa Hydroelectric power Project in Kyaukse.—MNA

Leader of Spokes Authoritative Team...

(from page 1)

They were welcomed by national race leaders, district and township level departmental officials and local national people.

Afterwards at the Anti-Narcotic Drugs Museum in Laukkai, U Li Man Kwan on behalf of Special Region No 1 national race leader U Phon Kyar Shin briefed regional development endeavours and accomplishments in cultivation of opium substitution crops. FES scholars inquired the requirements in carrying out regional development activities, U Li Man Kwan replied that there were requirements in transportation for agricultural produces. Although the major roads have been built with the assistance of the State, village-to-village roads are still required to be built to access remote hilly areas, he mentioned. Similarly, it is required to obtain modern cultivation

techniques, fertilizers and pesticides, he observed. Water is scarce in Kokang region for domestic use and agricultural purposes, he said. The international community should recognize the achievements in anti-narcotic drugs activities undertaken by the Government and the national people, he stressed.

Later, FES scholars visited the Anti-Narcotic Drugs Museum and viewed round the development in Laukkai. They proceeded to Kaungkha of Special Region No 5 in Shan State (North). They were welcomed there by national race leader U Mahtu Naw, departmental officials and the local national people.

Afterwards, at the briefing hall of Kaungkha, national race leader U Mahtu Naw explained matters on regional development endeavours and accomplishments in cultivating opium-substitution

crops. FES scholars inquired about the reason for making peace, their views and attitudes to the National Convention, the future of the peace groups and the relations among the Kachin peace groups. National race leader U Mahtu Naw explained that armed insurgency started as their region did not develop and was left isolated. They attained peace as the Government gave them a chance to join hands with the Tatmadaw in regional development endeavours and to participate in the National Convention, he said. The National Convention the first step of the Road Map has now been completed and when the remaining steps are completed the elected government will emerge, he observed. At that time, the peace groups will become auxiliary forces of the Tatmadaw, he mentioned. There are altogether three Kachin peace groups and the relation among them is fraternal.

Afterwards, FES scholars visited the Kaungkha hydroelectric power plant and the 100-acre opium-substitution tea plantation.

On 2 October, FES scholars visited the 105th-mile border trade station in Muse in northern Shan State. At the briefing hall there, they were briefed matters related to construction works at the 105th-mile station, border trade and developments of Muse region by Director-General of the Border Trade Department U San Pyae. Deputy Director-General of the Hydroelectric Power Generation Department U Win Kyi explained matters on Shweli hydroelectric power project.

Later, the FES scholars went on excursion tour to Mongyu inspection centre where loaded trucks are inspected with the use of X-ray machines; the inspection of vehicles at the export-import check point and cold storage for marine products. Next, they also visited the Shwe Nandaw gateway in Muse to the People's Republic of China and studied business and trade activities.

The FES scholars proceeded to Yeywa hydroelectric power plant project site in Kyaukse Township of Mandalay Division. They were welcomed by Deputy Minister for Electric Power-1 U Myo Myint and officials. At the briefing hall there, Deputy Minister U Myo Myint explained the work progress so far achieved

and the future works. FES scholars inquired that whether the project was harmful to environment or not. The Deputy Minister clarified that feasibility studies were made also for environmental conservation before starting the project. When the project is under way, a consultant team from Switzerland was hired to avoid effects to the environment. No villages were removed by the project which was being implemented by Myanmar technicians only, he explained. Then, FES scholars viewed round the Yeywa hydel power project site.

On 3 October morning, the FES scholars met with State Peace and Development Council Spokes Authoritative Team Leader and members, Deputy Ministers and senior officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Minister's Office of the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw. Officials concerned from various ministries clarified the salient points of their works and replied to the queries made by the FES scholars. In the afternoon, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan received the FES scholars and clarified the current political situation of Myanmar.

(The Minister's clarifications are reported separately).

Next, the FES

scholars inquired the co-operation between Myanmar and the UN. Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan replied that Myanmar as a member nation has been cooperating with the UN and at present Myanmar is fully cooperating with it; Head of State Senior General Than Shwe received UN Secretary General's Special Envoy Mr Gambari on 2 October; Mr Gambari also met with Spokes Authoritative Team of the State Peace and Development Council, national race peace groups as well as officials from religious organizations, Myanma Motion Picture Asiayon and Myanmar Music Asiayon; Mr Gambari was allowed to meet with those he would like to meet; he also got opportunities to witness development of the country and mass rallies to express People's Desire. The Minister also disclosed that he explained to Mr Gambari not only the current situation but also the stance of the Government on Myanmar's politics. The Minister also expressed his hope that Mr Gambari would explain about Myanmar's actual situation when he arrives back to the UN.

FES scholars then inquired about the possibilities of the groups which did not participated in the National Convention to enter election to be held according to the seven-step Road Map. Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan replied that the Constitution draft and (See page 9)



Scholars from FES foundation paying a visit to Drug Elimination Museum in Laukkai. — MNA

According to the principles adopted by the National Convention, a constitution with basic democratic rights for the people will emerge

The national races will have extensive range of rights to exercise legislative, administrative and judicial powers

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct—*The following is the clarification on current Myanmar's political affairs made by Chairman of the Information Committee of the State Peace and Development Council Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan to scholars of FES Foundation.*

Excellencies and distinguished guests,

First, I would like to express that I am glad to have this opportunity to make clarifications to FES (Friedrich Ebert Foundation) scholars.

I believe you have obtained a wide range of data and facts from officials concerned of various ministries. I would like to apprise you of the progress of the democracy reform as well as the situations caused by inside and outside antigovernment groups trying hard at their utmost to jeopardize the momentum being achieved in the democratic reform.

We are pro-democracy. Therefore, since the Government took over State responsibilities unavoidably in 1988, it has earnestly been making efforts for democratic reform as aspired by the people. We have declared the seven-step Road Map to the world for building up our nation into a discipline-flourishing democratic State. Today, the National Convention which is the first step of the seven-step Road Map has successfully been completed. All delegates of the National Convention have unanimously adopted Fundamental Principles and detailed basic principles.

In this context, I would like to mention the stance of the delegates representing former armed groups who participated in the National Convention. All those delegates have expressed their stances and attitude in meeting with UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy Mr Ibrahim Agboola Gambari in the year 2006 that they believed in the National Convention; would join the Government and the people according to the forthcoming Constitution; and would never return to underground for any reason.

According to the principles adopted by the National Convention, a Constitution with basic democratic rights for the people will emerge. The national races will have extensive range of rights to exercise legislative, administrative and judicial powers. In addition to the existing seven States, Wa, Danu,

Palaung, Pa-O, Kokang and Narga nationals will have Self-Administered Division or Self-Administered Zones to exercise legislative, administrative and judicial powers extensively.

In addition, efforts have been made for the minorities who do not get Self-Administered Division or Self-Administered Zone to enjoy democratic rights deservedly. The national race whose population exceeds 0.1 per cent of the nation's total population can send a representative to respective Region / State Hluttaw. That representative can participate as minister at the respective Region / State. On behalf of the national race concerned, that representative can participate in exercising legislative and administrative powers. Similarly, the national race which does not get SAD or SAZ and its population exceeds 10,000 can send a representative to respective Leading Bodies of SAD or SAZ so as to participate in legislative and administrative affairs.

Provisions guaranteeing the rights of various sectors including citizen sector, religious sector, social sector, etc which will be equal to those of other democratic nations will be prescribed in the forthcoming Constitution. Hence, we would like to stress that the Constitution to be drafted with the Fundamental Principles and detailed basic principles will be the best and the most suitable to our nation. These Fundamental Principles and detailed basic principles are adopted unanimously by all the delegates from every township including those delegates from former armed groups which have returned to the legal fold.

In undertaking democratic reform, we have to start with the steps harmonious to the prevailing conditions and current situations. We will get little advantage and much disadvantage if we give priority to the wishes and dreams rather than to prevailing conditions. Democracy will mature with the intellectual level and maturity of the people and developments in economic, education, social and other sectors. Today's democracy flourishing big nations have achieved the present mature stage of democracy in this way. Likewise, Myanmar's reform to democracy will also get mature gradually.

In transforming a nation into a democratic one, essential requirements are the stability, peace and the rule of law; the prosperity of the people; and the well educated citizens. Hence, nation building efforts are made politically, economically and socially by the Government. Antigovernment groups are trying to bring about democracy through violence and unrests. We would like to stress the point that according to the conditions of our nation, democratic reform cannot be made forcefully. We assume that in bringing about democracy, all the violence are not suitable to democracy.

Regarding the situations in Myanmar, I would explain in brief in two parts, the first part up to 2007 and the second part in the year 2007. Since taking over State responsibilities, the Tatmadaw Government has constantly been making earnest efforts for the national stability, development and democracy reform. Due to these endeavours, development is achieved on all fronts with momentum and the people are enjoying the fruitful results of development. As you friends have visited Myanmar for at least three times, you all have witnessed the stability and peace and developments of the country.

As you all have known, the Government started to convene the National Convention in view of democracy reform. From 1993 to 1996, The National Convention adopted 104 Fundamental Principles and detailed basic principles. However in the year 1995, NLD walked out of the National Convention on its own volition. Since then, antigovernment groups inside and outside the country making efforts for jeopardizing the National Convention, hindering the development pace and destroying peace and stability.

Especially, NLD has constantly been sticking to its wrong policies such as Defiance of All Orders, Confrontation, Utter Devastation, Imposing Four Kinds of Sanction, Relying on External Elements, and Opposing all the endeavours of the Government, etc. As efforts were made to destabilize the nation, create violence and unrests and jeopardize the National Convention, the Government has to make some detentions. **Similarly, the so-called "88" generation students group launched antigovernment activities such as signature campaign,**

(See page 10)

Leader of Spokes Authoritative Team...

(from page 8)

related laws and bylaws will be consisted of stipulations for formation of political parties. In accordance with the stipulations, antigovernment groups can be able to form political parties, he said. NLD is still sticking to wrongful policies of Defiance of All Orders, Confrontation, Utter Devastation, Imposing Four Kinds of Sanctions and Relying on External Elements, he noted. Only when the NLD give up these policies, cooperation can be made, he pointed out. One cannot plead for dialogue on one hand while putting pressures on the other, the minister remarked. Now the National Convention which is the first step of the seven-step Road Map has been completed, and continued efforts will thus be made for implementing the remaining steps, the Minister observed.

The FES scholars then inquired about the formation of a committee for drafting the Constitution. The Minister clarified that the drafting committee will be formed with adequate number of legal experts and intellectuals. By seeing the completion of the Na-

tional Convention in the year 2007, one can see that the Government has been expediting the implementation of the seven-step Road Map, he said. However, antigovernment groups do not see the completion of the National Convention as a progress and assuming that it rendered them lesser opportunities to grab power, they accelerated their efforts to jeopardize the National Convention, he noted. Thus, their efforts were deterred by security unit members and the people collectively, he said. The Minister continued to say that the Government has sound evidences about the collaborated attempts of antigovernment groups within and without the country to jeopardize the National Convention. The destructive elements had also plotted to blast bombs at the National Convention. Such destructive acts could delay the Road Map implementation process, he noted. He also stressed that international community as well as antigovernment groups should render cooperative hand to the Government's implementation of the seven-step Road Map. The Government would like to see the antigovernment groups to enter elections in the future, the Minister mentioned. The Tatmadaw

Government is not hindering the democracy reform but bringing about the discipline-flourishing democracy, he stressed. He continued to say that Fundamental Principles and detailed basic principles were adopted at the National Convention by people's delegates from eight delegate groups unanimously. During the previous trips as well as in this trip, the FES scholars have toured the regions of peace groups and known the views and stances of these groups upon the National Convention, the Minister said.

The Third Workshop on ASEAN-EU relation was held on 4 and 5 October at Kumudra Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw attended by FES scholars as well as researchers and scholars of Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies.

The FES Foundation included 13 scholars with two from the European Union and the European Parliament. The two scholars from the EU and the European Parliament were unable to attend the workshop though they were in Yangon because they were recalled due to the foreign media's exaggerated broadcasts on the demonstrations that took place in Myanmar.

MNA

According to the principles adopted by the...

(from page 9)

white expression campaign, prayer campaign, white Sunday campaign etc. Yet, the Government with broad-mindedness pardoned such antigovernment activities in view of enabling them to have democracy practices.

Likewise the expatriates who fled after violating laws in the country in one way or another made collaborative efforts for creating unrest and violence in the country, for jeopardizing stability and disrupting National Convention. The remnant insurgents seeking refuge at border areas are no longer strong enough to fight the Government militarily and they joined with inside and outside antigovernment groups in carrying out sabotage acts to harm the stability in the country. These destructive elements blasted bombs even at the religious ceremony to pay homage to Lord Buddha's Tooth Relic at Maha Pasana Cave in Yangon. They also blasted bombs simultaneously at Yangon Trade Centre, Junction-8 Centre and Dagon Shopping Centre. Due to the cruel bomb blasts, 23 persons were killed and 162 wounded.

Some western powers also put pressure upon the Government by imposing economic sanctions and cut off humanitarian aids. Similarly, foreign media made exaggerations and fabrications in order to instigate violence and unrest in the country. Thus, the people of Myanmar dubbed these foreign broadcasting stations as "centres with skyful of lies".

Although inside and outside antigovernment groups, insurgents, western powers and western media are collectively attacking the Government, the entire people of Myanmar absolutely believe in and support the Government. It is obvious that with the support of the people, the Government successfully carries on the process of democracy reform. Despite various difficulties and hardships, the Government gains development accomplishments and democracy reform process is not delayed.

I will continue to explain about the situations in the year 2007. When the Government declared in June to convene the final session of the National Convention soon to accelerate the pace of democracy reform process, the antigovernment groups inside and outside the country raised the momentum of antigovernment activities. **They employed three strategies. The first strategy was to disrupt the National Convention. If they could not disrupt it, they would try to make efforts for preventing the drafting of the Constitution. If they fail to do so, they would try to instigate the people not to support the Constitution. Their second strategy was to create unrest and violence like those in 1988. Their third strategy was to launch sabotage acts including blasting of bombs throughout the country. These three strategies were employed by antigovernment groups within and without the country as well as those at the border areas with harmonious timings collectively.**

At the same time, in order to assist these three strategies, some western powers misused UN Security Council, ILO and Human Rights Council to try to take lopsided actions against Myanmar. The intelligence organizations of some western powers also provided cash and kind assistance to the inside and outside antigovernment groups. NLD and the so-called "88" generation students group in collaboration made instigations through various ways and means to create instability and unrest in the country. Diplomats of the embassies of some western countries visited the NLD headquarters almost daily and gave advice and suggestions. The centres opened by those embassies also conducted various training courses which were not related with education but with antigovernment activities. **Although, these centres are opened to**

further promote understanding between the peoples of the two countries, they are actually providing training courses on antigovernment activities. You friends can consider it is appropriate or not.

The expatriate groups abroad under the guise of democracy, human rights and labour affairs made contacts with NED (National Endowment for Democracy) USAID, etc and provided cash and necessary assistance to antigovernment groups inside the country to launch UG activities. With the funds provided by these foreign financial organizations, the antigovernment groups inside the country made efforts to create unrest and violence.

While the antigovernment groups inside and outside the country were carrying out antigovernment activities collectively, the Government had to refix fuel prices unavoidably. The Government has been subsidizing for fuel prices since 1988. Nowadays in the world, fuel prices are skyrocketing and the Government has to spend huge amount of money for the subsidies. Therefore, balancing the expenditure of State funds and for subsidies and the consideration for relieving the people from the burden of oil price hikes, fuel prices were refixed unavoidably. Yet, the revised fuel prices are still less than the prevailing international fuel prices as the Government continues to subsidize. By taking advantage of the rise in fuel prices, the antigovernment groups started to make instigations to create protests. In other words, they employed their strategies.

At first, the antigovernment groups attempted to infiltrate the students to create unrest. However, the majority of the students know the truth and they could not be instigated. Then, the antigovernment groups tried to infiltrate the workers. And the workers did not accept their instigation. Therefore, the antigovernment groups infiltrated the monks and instigate to create protests. As a result, some monks started to protest beginning 28 August.

In the beginning, the monks did not make political demands and they wandered reciting parittas for the physical and mental well-being of the people. However, authorities handled the issue with restraints and patience. As no restrictions were made by the Government, antigovernment groups turned the situation into political movement so as to make political demands and create unrests.

In fact, there are about 500,000 monks in the whole country and only 2 per cent of monks participated in the protests. Those 2 per cent of the mass of monks include those bogus monks who got their heads shaved and wore monk's robes temporarily as arranged and paid by NLD and the so-called '88 generation students group. The lay persons who took part in the protests were also members of the antigovernment groups. The majority of the people did not participate in the protests. **With the passage of time, there emerged dangers to harm the national peace and stability. Some protesters even threatened reverend monks who did not participate in the protests.**

The most significant incident was that on 24th September, some 350 monks and NLD members shouted abusive words and attacked monastic buildings with purified water bottles at the monastery of Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw who is the Joint Sasana-paing (the most reverend bishop) of Shwekyin Gana of the Sangha with membership strength of about 50,000 monks all over the country. The Kyakhatwaing Sayadaw's monastery is located in Bago and the residence of about 1,200 monks. Being the Joint Sasana-paing, the Sayadaw is highly respected by the mass of the Sangha. Hence the mass of the Sangha is very frustrated with that incident.

Since the situations was leading to deterioration like in 1988, the Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws tried to settle the issue with Dhamma. In addition to the previous directives, the sangha Maha Nayaka Committee issued the directive No 93 on 24 September for the monks to perform the religious

duties only and not to get involved in violence and political affairs. Neglecting the directives, the monks continued to launch protests. As the situation had worsened like in 1988 and the nation was on the brink of disintegration, authorities issued a curfew in necessary places of Yangon and Mandalay. Authorities had to take necessary measures for preventing the 1988 disturbances-like deterioration.

The Government handled the situations with much patience, tolerance and broad-mindedness. Authorities at different levels handled the situation very carefully with much restraints at their best. **On the other hand, the protests and violence harmed the transportation, business and daily lives of the people. Thus, the people themselves rounded up the protesters and handed over to authorities. Due to the efforts of the people, the nation has come to normalcy.**

Authorities handled the situation without any hatred or prejudice. Focus was made only on ensuring the prevalence of peace and stability. Though the authorities handled the situation with much care and restraints, there have been some arrests and bloodshed incidents. We are more sorrowful than foreigners and foreign nations as this situation rose in our country and to our people. At the bottom of our heart, we absolutely do not want such incident happen. Please understand the fact that the incident that occurred in Myanmar due to sponsorship of the western powers and collective efforts of antigovernment groups inside and outside the country.

Actually, the entire people do not want or accept such protests and unrests. So, mass rallies are being held throughout the country unanimously by the people to denounce violence and protests as well as to support the National Convention and the forthcoming Constitution. More such rallies will take place all over the country.

We would like to ascertain that as the Government has already adopted the seven-step Road Map for building up a discipline-flourishing democratic nation, it will never deviate from its policy no matter how the international community impose sanctions or render assistance. We are eager to have better ties with EU and we welcome the assistance of EU in the procesas of democracy transition and for the development of human resources. The European Union however needs to have true picture of Myanmar's political situation and actual conditions so as to act fair and square without bias. As some member countries of EU are bluntantly interfering in our internal affairs, the progress in the relations between Myanmar and EU will remain far and far. During the recent strikes, some leaders and senior officials of some member countries of EU encouraged the protesters bluntantly to continue to go on strikes. Such acts will tarnish the image of EU and make it difficult to play a fair and square role in Myanmar's affairs.

While EU aspires the flourishing of democracy in Myanmar, the Tatmadaw will see to the emergence of democracy without fail as aspired by the people. It is hoped that this workshop can find ways and means to solve difficulties caused by different approaches although we have the same aspiration. In this context, I would like to express our deep gratitude to Friedrich Ebert Foundation for its endeavours for these workshops through various difficulties.

What I have clarified are underlying facts as regards the progress of the seven-step Road Map and the political transition. Other ministries have also clarified their views frankly as regards the actual conditions and situations of Myanmar and possibilities for cooperation between Myanmar and EU. Thus, it is believed that Excellencies and guests have had more useful facts. You friends can raise questions for further details. And you all are invited for free and frank discussions.

Thank you. — MNA

Let's keep ourselves fit and healthy to serve public welfare services

Kyi Win Nyunt

Good health is the greatest blessing, to which everybody aspires much. It is required of each and every citizen to keep themselves fit and healthy free from diseases so as to serve the interests of the motherland, the people and their own.

With this context, the Ministry of Health is in pursuit of its two objectives—to enable the people to enjoy their life spans fully and to be free from diseases after laying down national health policies designed to improve public health care.

Now, the government is building good foundations in the political, economic, education, health and social sectors mobilizing the strength of the people for transition to a peaceful, modern and developed nation with flourishing discipline.

Simultaneously, it is constructing health infrastructures wherever needed and producing doctors, nurses, health assistants and midwives for uplift of the health standard of the entire nation. In addition, it is carrying out health care services on a wider scale across the nation such as providing better community health care to the public for prevention of diseases, and conducting health educative talks for improving the health standard and nutritional development of mothers and children.

The public health care facilities the government constructed in 2007 included the X-ray room of



Mandalay Traditional Medicine University designed to improve Myanmar traditional medical science.

348 health care centres for mothers and children, 86 regional health care centres and 80 school health care centres. It has appointed more than 30,000 doctors, more than 6000 dental surgeons, more than 10,000 nurses, more than 1000 health assistants, and more than 8000 midwives.

In order to produce a growing number of medical professionals, it is establishing medical institutions.

It is the more important role traditional medicines play in the public health care sector. Traditional medicines have been used to cure diseases throughout successive periods, and now they have won more reliance and trust of both rural and urban people. So, the government is taking steps to improve the Myanmar traditional medical science and erecting herbal plant gardens. From 1988 to date, the number of traditional medicine hospitals has increased from two to 14, and traditional medical care centres, from 89 to 243.

Besides, the government has installed a great deal of modern medical equipment in the hospitals across the nation for public health care.

Now, the nation has been free from leprosy and iodine deficiency. Preventive measures against bird flu are being taken now. The government is speeding up the programmes to fight three major diseases—AIDS, TB and malaria, and launching anti-drug movements for supply elimination, demand elimination, giving medical treatments to drug-addicts, and rehabilitation. The life expectancy of the people is improving significantly.

All healthy and strong citizens are required to do their bit in the drive for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. Therefore, the entire people have to keep themselves fit and healthy with longevity to be able to serve the public interests in harmony.

Translation: MS
Kyemon: 23-9-2007

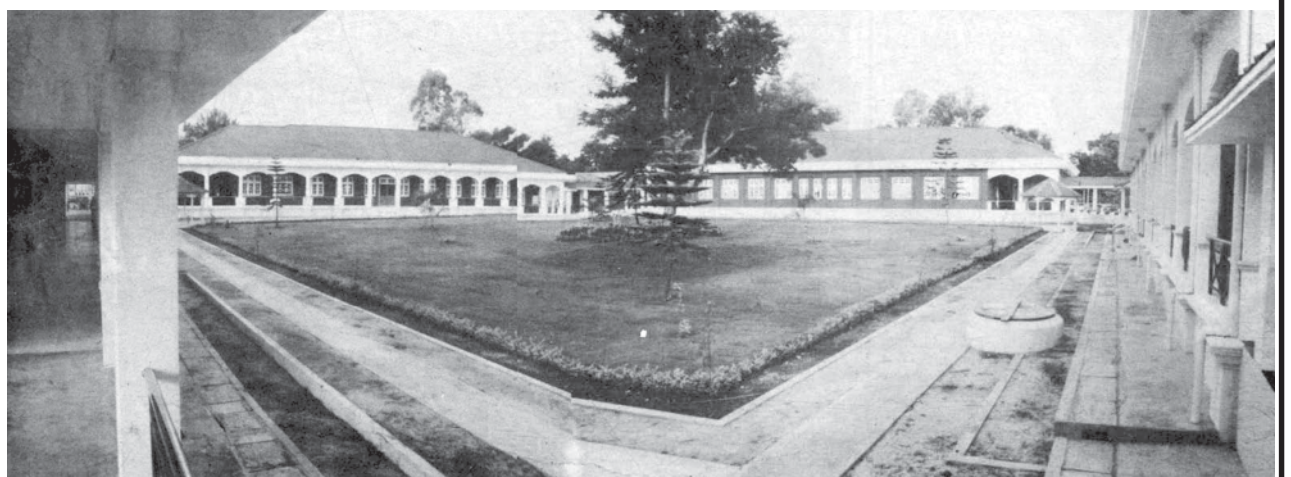


Kengtung General Hospital.

Aphyauk Station Hospital in Yangon Division, opened on 10 February, the 100-bed hospital in Mogok, Mandalay Division, opened on 13 March, the People's Hospital in Ngwehsaung, Ayeyawady Division, opened on 17 March, Thabyegon Station Hospital in Bago Township, Bago Division, opened on 30 March, the new ward, operation theatre and two-storey labour room of Township People's Hospital in Ye, Taningthayi Division, opened on 6 April, the Community Health University (Yangon) in Yangon opened on 17 July, and the three-storey building of Women and Children's Hospital in Taunggyi, Shan State (South), opened on 24 July. These facilities reflect the government's benevolence to the people.

As a result, the number of hospitals throughout the country has risen from 631 in 1988 to 834. In 1988, the number of specialist hospitals stood at only 67, and the government's construction of new health facilities has made the number 94. At least one 200-bed hospital each has been constructed in the 24 special development regions. Up to now, it has opened 460 station hospitals, 1456 rural health care centres,

Between 1988 and now, the number of medical universities has increased from three to four, and dental universities, from one to two. It has constructed two universities of nursing, two universities of pharmacy, two universities of paramedical science, one university of primary health, one public health university, and 23 nurses training schools.



PyinOoLwin Hospital (200-bed).

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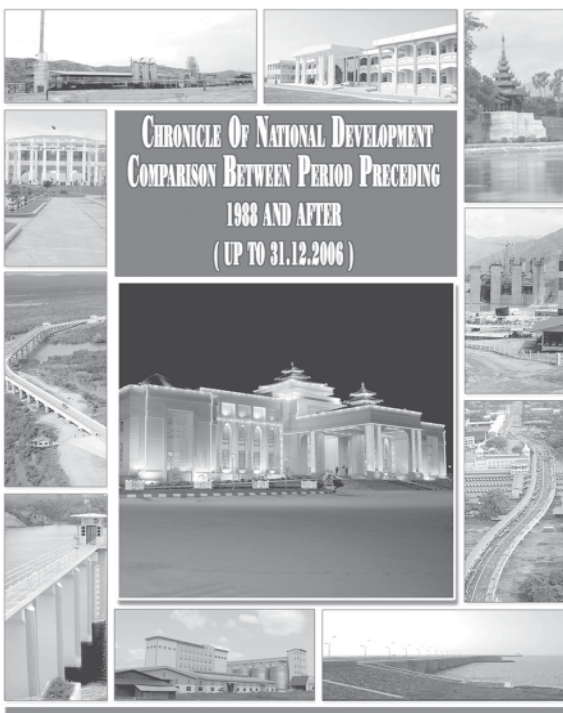
Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (185) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.10.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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Geographic information system in wide use in China

BEIJING, 5 Oct — China's self-developed geographic information system (GIS) technology has been widely used in the spheres of land survey, mineral exploitation, water conservancy and many other aspects, resulting in 400 billion yuan in aggregate output value.

China's geographic information industry has registered 400 billion yuan in aggregate output value last year and hired more than 300,000 people, according to Zhong Ershun, deputy president of the China Association for Geographic Information System.

He said that nearly 20,000 domestic enterprises were estimated to have engaged in the industry, with 2,000 being specialized ones.

Chen Ying, deputy director of the Information Product Department of the Ministry of Information Industry, attributed the industry's rapid expansion to the country's robust economic development on the whole and the rising capital input from both government and companies.

Between 2001 and 2005, more than 20 million yuan has been earmarked by the Ministry of Information Industry as a special fund to bankroll the development and application of domestic software for geographic information system.

Zhong said that self-developed GIS technology has already reached the world's leading levels and been put to use in many spheres including land survey, mineral exploitation, water conservancy, environmental protection, power generation, mapping, telecommunication as well as the management for the public goods and civil services. — MNA/Xinhua

US coalition recommends eat fish while pregnant

WASHINGTON, 5 Oct — Women who want to become pregnant, are pregnant or breast-feeding should eat at least 12 ounces of fatty fish such as tuna every week to help themselves and their babies, experts will recommend later on Thursday.

Fish including mackerel, sardines, light tuna and salmon are rich in omega-3 fatty acids — components of fat known to help brain development. Walnuts, flaxseed oil and leafy green vegetables also contain the compounds.

Women need the nutrients to prevent postpartum depression and babies need them for brain and motor skill development, the National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies coalition says.

The coalition, which includes the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Institute on Child Health and Human Development and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, says "90 per cent of women are consuming

less than the recommended amount of fish". But these fish can also carry high levels of mercury, which is a brain and nerve toxin.

Because of this, the US Food and Drug Administration and Environmental Protection Agency issued consumer advisories in 2001 and 2004 advising women who were pregnant, breast-feeding or trying to become pregnant, as well as young children, to eat no more than 12 ounces

weekly of certain types of fish.

Estimates on the dangers posed by mercury come from people exposed in chemical spills. No major studies have shown evidence mercury from food or vaccines has caused brain damage to mothers or children.

Michael Bender, director of The Mercury Policy Project, an advocacy group that believes mercury exposure has damaged

children, said women should choose fish not likely to be contaminated with mercury.

"While it's recognized that fish is an important source of protein, especially for pregnant women, this new emphasis on eating more than 12 ounces of fish per week, without mention of the need to avoid mercury contaminated fish, appears to throw the baby out with the bath water," he said in a statement.

MNA/Reuters

Japan's probe satellite put into orbit around moon

TOKYO, 5 Oct — Japan's first lunar probe satellite was successfully put into orbit around the moon, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) said on Friday.

The agency announced that the Selenological and Engineering Explorer was injected into a lunar orbit with an Apogee altitude of 11,741 kilometres and an Perigee altitude of 101 kilometres. Its period is 16 hours and 42 minutes.

The satellite, dubbed *Kaguya* after Japanese ancient fable, was lift off on September 14 with a *H-2A* rocket from the Tanegashima Space Centre in Japan's southern Kagoshima Prefecture. The agency performed the lunar orbit injection manoeuvre on 4 October.

Kaguya, which consists of a three-ton main orbiter and two 50-kilogramme subsatellites, is equipped with 14 scientific instru-

ments and a high-definition television camera. It will start the world's first full-scale mission to explore the moon since the US *Apollo* programme, the agency said. Under the 55-billion-yen (474-million-US-dollar) project, the satellite is to begin its 10-month mission around December, collecting lunar features related with the origin and evolution of the moon.

MNA/Xinhua

India, US sign pact for low-cost medical technology

NEW DELHI, 5 Oct — India and the United States on Thursday sign an agreement for developing low-cost diagnostics and therapeutic medical technologies.

The agreement, signed by the national institute of biomedical imaging and bioengineering under the national institute of health (NIH) of the United States and India's Science and Technology Ministry, focuses primarily on infection, trauma, maternal and child health and chronic diseases like diabetes and cardiovascular problems.

Both countries agreed to conduct research, research training and technology development as part of the pact, the Indian Government said in a statement.

India's Science and Technology Minister Keki Sibal stressed the need for availability of funds for research in the health sector.

MNA/Xinhua

First ever sanitary landfill site inaugurated in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 5 Oct — Bangladesh's first ever sanitary landfill site was inaugurated here Wednesday, local newspaper *The Daily Star* reported Thursday.

The project, developed with the technical support of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), aims to improve the solid waste management services in the capital.

Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka said at the inauguration this site is one of the major achievements of DCC. He also requested for proper utilization and maintenance of the site. Resident Representative of JICA in Bangladesh Nobuko Suzuki Kayashima said the project is constructing an environment-friendly landfill site that is a milestone in this arena.

She also mentioned that DCC and JICA are working together for a common goal of realizing proper solid waste management in Dhaka city.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

Iraqi PM Maliki questions future role of Blackwater

BAGHDAD, 4 Oct—Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki questioned on Wednesday whether US private security firm Blackwater had any future role in Iraq because of the high number of shooting incidents in which it had been involved. Maliki appeared to toughen his stand against Blackwater over a September 16 shooting in Baghdad in which 11 Iraqis died, an incident that sparked outrage among Iraqis who see the firm as a private Army which acts with impunity. In Washington, a House

of Representatives committee heard in testy hearings on Tuesday that Blackwater guards had been involved in 195 shooting incidents in Iraq from the start of 2005 until 12 September this year, an average of 1.4 a week. In those shootings there were 16 Iraqi casualties and 162 cases of property damage. Blackwater fired first in 84 per cent of the incidents, said a report given to the House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. "I believe the big numbers of accusations directed against (Black-

water) do not make it valid to stay in Iraq," Maliki told a news conference in Baghdad. Blackwater, which has received US Government contracts worth more than a billion dollars, is one of the biggest security contractors in Iraq. It employs about 1,000 people in Iraq, where it guards the US Embassy and its staff. The North Carolina-based company has said its guards reacted lawfully to an attack on a convoy they were protecting during the 16 September incident in western Baghdad. MNA/Reuters

Philippines unhappy over US TV racial slur

MANILA, 5 Oct — The Philippines Wednesday expressed "displeasure" over a racial slur made against Philippine medical schools and professionals in a United States award winning television show. Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman Claro Cristobal said Philippine Consul General to Los Angeles Mary Jo Bernardo Aragon has written to the producer of the ABC TV Network show to express the Philippine Government's dismay "over the remarks made about our

Filipino medical schools". In a season premiere aired in the US on 30 September, "Desperate Housewives" character Susan Mayer, which was played by actress Teri Hatcher, was featured in an episode wherein she was consulting a gynecologist about menopause. Mayer said: "Can I check those diplomas because I want to make sure that they're not from some med school in the Philippines?" The spokesman said the Philippine medical

profession is highly regarded all over the world as evidenced by high demand of Filipino healthcare professionals in many countries, including the United States. "The Philippines is also considered a top medical tourism destination with many foreigners including US citizens who choose to undergo surgical and other medical procedures in recognition of high quality and reasonably priced medical services," said the spokesman. MNA/Xinhua

US, Russia sign pact to hunt for water on Mars, moon

Moscow, 4 Oct—Russia and the United States, the world's great space powers, celebrated the eve of the first satellite launch 50 years ago with a pact to use Russian technology on NASA missions to seek water on the moon and Mars.

and recent clashes over US "Star Wars"-style missile defence plans to concentrate on what they had achieved together, first in the Apollo-Soyuz joint mission of 1975 and later with the International Space Station. "What better example to set for the citizens of our countries and the world about what is possible if we work together in a spirit of cooperation, partnership

and friendship?" NASA flight engineer Clayton Anderson said in a video message sent from the International Space Station. Wednesday's agreement, the product of a different era, will see NASA using Russian scientific instruments on missions to detect the presence of hydrogen — a predictor of water — on the moon and later on Mars. MNA/Reuters

French leaders' popularity drops, worries pile up

PARIS, 4 Oct—Five months after taking power, the political honeymoon of French President Nicolas Sarkozy and Prime Minister Francois Fillon has ended, tarnished by concerns over the economy and the pace of their reforms. An opinion poll published on Tuesday showed Sarkozy's popularity beneath 60 per cent and Fillon's below 50 per cent for the first time since the presidential election in May, partly reflecting sinking confidence in France's economic outlook. "These clouds seem

to indicate that the presidential charm has dimmed and that the country is awaiting a fresh presidential vision," said Stephane Rozes, the head of pollster CSA which carried out Tuesday's survey for Le Parisien newspaper. Sarkozy had a popularity rating of 55 per cent and Fillon 47 per cent. Both were down six points. Sarkozy was elected on a pledge of comprehensive reforms and says he has made a strong start implementing his manifesto, with an initial wave of tax cuts, a

shake up of universities and a pledge to end pension privileges for many state sector workers. But French voters do not perceive a boost to their purchasing power from the initial reforms. Economic data last week showing a rise in unemployment and a sharp slide in the main consumer morale indicator accentuated concerns. But Maliki's government later appeared to soften its stand, saying no action would be taken against it until after a joint investigation of the incident with US officials. MNA/Reuters

Police probe "Indiana Jones" theft mystery

LOS ANGELES, 4 Oct—Computers and photographs related to the production of director Steven Spielberg's highly anticipated "Indiana Jones" film have been stolen, the Los Angeles Times reported on Wednesday. The paper said DreamWorks Pictures SKG, the studio co-founded by Spielberg, had asked local law enforcement to investigate. It quoted Spielberg's spokesman as saying the director was concerned the thieves might try to sell the materials. "We want to warn the media that anything that is offered is stolen property," Marvin Levy told the paper. "We know it is out there." Levy said the crime had occurred fairly recently, but did not know any specifics. "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," the fourth movie in the adventure franchise, will be released next summer, 19 years after the last installment in the series.—MNA/Reuters



Contestants of the 47th Miss International Beauty Pageant take a group photo during Press conference in Tokyo, Japan on 3 Oct, 2007. 47th Miss International Beauty — final will be held in Tokyo in 15 Oct. — INTERNET

Turkey to fund \$3.5b Iran gas deal alone

ANKARA, 4 Oct—Turkey will finance a 3.5-billion-US-dollar investment in Iranian gas production entirely from a state company of its own

as US opposition has put off foreign investors, Energy Ministry officials said on Wednesday. The United States has objected to a gas agreement between its NATO ally Turkey and the Islamic Republic, and is urging countries to cut business ties with Iran over its failure to suspend its nuclear energy programme. Washington is spearheading a drive for a third sanctions resolution against Iran in the UN Security Council. It also plans new unilateral actions as a means to pressure Teheran over its nuclear programme which Washington says is aimed at building a bomb and Iran says is for peaceful purposes.—MNA/Reuters

SPORTS

Platini says Blatter's cap on foreign players impossible

ZURICH, 6 Oct — FIFA president Sepp Blatter's plan to limit the number of foreigners allowed to play for a club is impossible, his UEFA counterpart Michel Platini said on Friday.

European soccer's top official said he backed the "philosophy" behind Blatter's scheme to cap the number of foreigners in a starting line-up to five from 2010.

But Platini said world soccer's governing body needed to accept the plan could not work in the European Union due to laws which allow free movement of labour.

"The philosophy is fantastic but legally it is difficult," Platini told *Reuters*.

"I can understand FIFA because they have 208 national associations and then there are 29 (EU members) who are all in our confederation. The philosophy is good but for me it is not possible."

Blatter is expected to run into trouble over his plan, EU officials said on Friday, while the G14 which represents 18 of Europe's top clubs such as Manchester United, Real Madrid and AC Milan have already voiced their opposition.

UEFA's "homegrown player" rule, which began in 2006 and means every squad involved in European club competition must have a minimum of eight locally-trained players, is already being probed by the EU.

"We want to create a European football charter by having a collective bargaining agreement that defends the specific nature of sport," Platini said.

MNA/Reuters



Manchester United's Rio Ferdinand, left, and Wigan Athletic's Titus Bramble battle for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match at Old Trafford, Manchester, England, Saturday Oct. 6, 2007. Manchester United won the match 4-0. — INTERNET

Marion Jones admits to steroid use

NEW YORK, 5 Oct — Track champion Marion Jones has admitted using steroids as she prepared for the 2000 Olympics and plans to plead guilty on Friday to two counts of lying about her drug use, *The Washington Post* reported on Thursday.

Jones, who will also plead guilty to an unrelated financial matter in a New York court, made the admission in a letter she sent to close family and friends, the *Post* reported.

According to the letter, Jones said she took the steroid known as "the clear" for two years beginning in 1999. Jones won five medals at the 2000 Games in Sydney, including 100m and 200m gold.

The letter was read to *The Washington Post* by a person who had been given a copy. A person familiar with Jones' legal situation, who requested anonymity, confirmed the relevant facts described in the letter, the newspaper said.

In late 2004 the International Olympic Committee opened an investigation into allegations that Jones used performance-enhancing drugs.

Jones, 31, has previously denied ever using drugs designed to aid her performance.

She said in the letter she faced up to six months in jail for lying to federal agents about her drug use, the *Post* reported. — MNA/Reuters

Colombia make sweeping changes for World Cup qualifiers

BOGOTA, 6 Oct — Colombia's experienced defenders Mario Yepes and Ivan Ramiro Cordoba were excluded as coach Jorge Luis Pinto made sweeping changes to his squad for this month's World Cup qualifiers against Brazil and Bolivia.

The 23 players named on Friday included only nine survivors from the Copa America, when Colombia suffered an embarrassing first-round exit after a 5-0 drubbing by Paraguay and a 4-2 loss to Argentina.

Pinto said Yepes had been left out because he was short of match practice with his French club Paris St Germain.

Cordoba's omission had been expected after he was heavily criticized for his performance against Paraguay when he was at fault for two goals.

Colombia, who play Brazil in Bogota on October 14 and Bolivia in La Paz three days later, are also missing goalkeeper Miguel Calero, defender Luis Amaranto Perea and midfielder Giovanny Hernandez through injury.

Pinto decided against a recall for former Aston Villa striker Juan Pablo Angel, despite his improvement in form since joining Major League Soccer's Red

Bulls New York.

Angel has scored 17 goals in 22 games for his new club.

River Plate striker Radamel Falcao Garcia was recalled after surprisingly missing out on the Copa America and Argentine-based midfielder Freddy Grisales was brought back following a long absence.

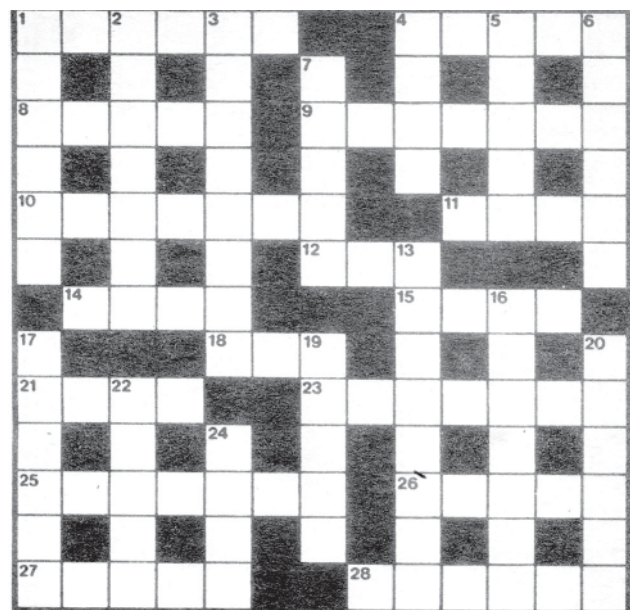
Colombia last qualified for the World Cup in 1998.

Goalkeepers: Agustin Julio (Tolima), Robinson Zapata (Steaua Bucharest), David Ospina (Atletico Nacional) Defenders: Camilo Zuniga (Atletico Nacional), Aquivaldo Mosquera (Sevilla), Walter Moreno (Cucuta), Cristian Zapata (Udinese), Estiven Velez (Atletico Nacional), Gerardo Vallejo (Tolima), Javier Arizala (Tolima)

Midfielders: Jose Amaya (Atletico Nacional), Jaime Castrillon (Independiente Medellin), Carlos Sanchez (Valenciennes), Julian Anchico (Tolima), Aldo Leao Ramirez (Atletico Nacional), Freddy Grisales (Colon), David Ferreira (Atletico Paranaense), Jorge Banguero (America)

Forwards: Radamel Falcao Garcia (River Plate), Carmelo Valencia (Atletico Nacional), Wason Renteria (Racing Strasbourg), Hugo Rodallega (Necaxa), Edixon Perea (Girondins Bordeaux). — MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

1. Tristram —, novel hero
4. Grins unpleasantly
8. Pallid
9. Steep in liquid
10. Capital offence
11. Heavy metal
12. Lout
14. Bill of fare
15. Vow
18. A grass
21. Anticipate
23. Ungenerous
25. Dried grape
26. Egyptian city
27. Antelope
28. Marine growth

DOWN

1. Meagre
2. Sports competitor
3. Is around (anag.)
4. Flaccid
5. Weird
6. Unwavering
7. Musical instrument
13. Size of paper
16. Instruction
17. Pure
19. Attempt
20. Ceremonial seat
22. Lively dance
24. Hairless

Chinese shuttler Bao advances to top 16 of Macao Open

MACAO, 5 Oct — China's Bao Chunlai continued his victory on Thursday in the 2007 Macao Badminton Open as he advanced to the top 16.

World No. 2 Bao won his third round match against Chong Li-Qun of Malaysia by 21-16 and 21-14 in less than an hour. "It is not an easy game, though it looked like an easy one," said Bao, "Chong is fast and good at attacking. This is a hard game and I am happy that I take the victory."

Earlier on Thursday, Bao's teammate Chen Hong also entered the top 16 by defeating Tan Chun-Seang of Malaysia 2-0.

Thursday is the third day of the tournament, which takes place from Monday through Sunday at Macao's Polytechnic Institute multi-sport Pavilion. The 2007 Macao Open has attracted 300 shuttlers from 19 countries and regions. — MNA/Xinhua

Kim double helps Nancy recapture Ligue 1 lead

PARIS, 6 Oct — Surprise package Nancy moved back to the top of Ligue 1 on Friday with a 3-1 win at Monaco featuring two goals from Kim.

Brazilian forward Kim put the easterners in front from close range after 31 minutes. Fellow forward Issiar Dia doubled the advantage eight minutes later before Kim was on target again three minutes into the second half, firing into the top corner.

Czech striker Jan Koller reduced the arrears for the home side with a headed goal after 74 minutes.

Nancy, relying on exactly the same squad as last season, are now three points clear of six-times champions Olympique Lyon, who visit third-placed Girondins Bordeaux in the highlight match of the weekend programme on Sunday. — MNA/Reuters

Zambia speaks against EU complaint over Chinese loans

LUSAKA, 6 Oct — Zambia on Thursday spoke against the European Union (EU)'s complaints against Chinese loans to the country, saying the EU should not "dictate" its economic relations with other countries.

Speaking in an interview aired by Zambia's national TV station, Zambian Finance Minister Ng'andu Magande said his government appreciates EU's contribution to Zambia's economic development but interference in Zambia's internal affairs is "undiplomatic".

Magande's remarks came one day after the EU warned Zambia to turn down China's money.

EU ambassador to Zambia Derek Fee said in a report published on the *Post* newspaper Wednesday that Zambia and other African countries are "mortgaging" themselves by getting loans from the rising power in the Far East.

"It will be an absolute scandal if Zambia started getting itself back into the loan track of taking loans and having to pay back," said the EU envoy.

The criticism, one of EU's countermeasures to undermine China's

growing influence over mineral-rich countries in Africa, was triggered on news that Zambia has won

a loan of 39 million US dollars from the Chinese Government.

MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia rejects foreign troops on Malacca Strait

JAKARTA, 6 Oct — Indonesia has renewed its rejection of any help from foreign troops to help safeguard one of the world's busiest waterways, the Malacca Strait.

"We have established cooperation on joint patrol (of the Strait) with Malaysia and Singapore," Indonesian Military (TNI) commander Air Chief Marshall Djoko Suyanto was quoted Thursday by English daily the *Jakarta Post* as saying.

"We don't want any third party's involvement in the routine."

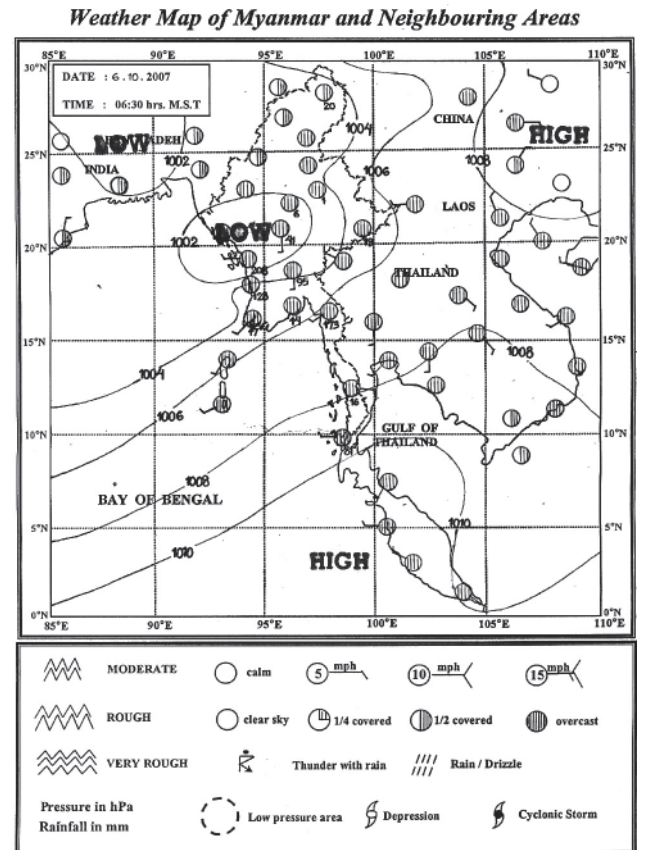
Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia are the littoral

states of the strait through which a large amount of world's oil supplies are transported everyday.

Suyanto said other countries' involvement should be in the form of providing technical assistance and equipment.

He added the Japanese Government would provide one or more patrol boats as part of its commitment to assist the three countries. The boats are expected to arrive in December.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Saturday, 6 October, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hour MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State, scattered in upper Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfalls in Kayin, Rakhine and Mon States and Magway Division, isolated heavyfalls in Mandalay, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (1.38) inches, Kyaukpyu (9.41) inches, Mawlamyine (6.97) inches, Yamethin (6.03) inches, Thandwe (5.59) inches, Mudon (5.57) inches, Kawkaeik (5.31) inches, Kawthoung (5.19) inches, Gwa (4.33) inches, Taungoo (3.90) inches, Hpa-an (3.63) inches, Aunglan (2.76) inches and Taungdwingyi (1.61) inches.

Maximum temperature on 5-10-2007 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 6-10-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 6-10-2007 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 5-10-2007 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 6-10-2007 was (0.51) inch at Mingaladon, (0.56) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.87) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (128.23) inches at Mingaladon, (132.76) inches at Kaba-Aye and (137.01) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from West at (15:30) hours MST on 5-10-2007.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hour MST today, yesterday's low pressure area over West Central Bay still persists. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Special feature: According to the observations at (06:30) hour MST today, yesterday's land depression has downgraded to Low Pressure Area and is moving westward.

Forecast valid until evening of 7-10-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kachin State, Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions, fairly widespread in Chin, Shan and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining areas with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine and Mon States, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) to (45) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon in the Andaman Sea and South Bay.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 7-10-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 7-10-2007: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 7-10-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

"New rainfall record"

(Issued at 10:30 hr MST on 6-10-2007)

The amount of rainfall (153) mm (6.02 inches) observed at (09:30) hours MST on 6-10-2007 in Yamethin is the (24) hours new maximum rainfall record at the station for the month of October during last (43) years. The former record was (130 mm) (5.03 inches) on 1-10-2003.



Sunday, 7 October
View on today

- 7:00 am**
 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘုရားတို့ထံသို့ သီရိတံတရားတော်
- 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. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈)မြောက်လ
- 8:00 am**
 6. အတိုးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:10 am**
 7. တမာနှင့်ဖိုးနီလှောင်တံ
- 8:15 am**
 8. Musical programme
- 8:30 am**
 9. International news
- 8:45 am**
 10. Say it in English
- 11:00 am**
 1. Martial song
- 11:10 am**
 2. Musical programme

- 11:25 am**
 3. Round up of the week's international news
- 11:40 am**
 4. Myanmar movie: "ခြေဖမ်းတော်နုနု" (ဇော်လွင်၊ စမ်းစမ်းအေး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်ဝဏ္ဏ)
- 1:30 pm**
 5. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ် (၁၅)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတိုး ပြိုင်ပွဲ (ရုပ်သေးပြိုင်ပွဲဆွေးနွေးခန်း)
- 1:45 pm**
 6. Musical programme
- 2:00 pm**
 7. (၂၄)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ အားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်မည့် မြန်မာအားကစားအဖွဲ့များ၏ ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်မှုများ (၃၅မိနစ်)
- 2:15 pm**
 8. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:25 pm**
 9. ကချင်ပြည်နယ် မိုးကောင်းတံတား
- 2:35 pm**
 10. "ငှက်တစ်သောင်း" (ကင်းကောင်ငှက်ပျော့ကြော်၊ ထူးမွန်အကယ်ဒမီစိုးရွှေ၊ ဦးမြင့်စိုးတိမ်ညွန့်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-မောင်သိ)
- 2:45 pm**
 11. International news
- 4:00 pm**
 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm**
 2. ဆောင်းပါးရှင် ရဲဘော်တင်ရွှေ၏ "ယနေ့ဖြစ်ပွားနေသော အရေးအခင်းနှင့်ပြည်ပ အန္တရာယ်"

- 4:30 pm**
 3. Song for uphold national spirit
- 4:40 pm**
 4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-ဒုတိယနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ဓာတုဗေဒ)
- 4:55 pm**
 5. Song of national races
- 5:10 pm**
 6. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ် (၁၅)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတိုး ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များလေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (ကာလပေါ်တေးနှင့် ခေတ်ဟောင်းတေး) (အခြေခံပညာ ၅-၁၀နှစ်) (အမျိုးသမီး)
- 5:20 pm**
 7. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm**
 8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
 9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
 10. သီရိဓမ္မာ
- 7:00 pm**
 11. ဆင်းရွှေလီစပါး(အပိုင်း-၁)
- 7:10 pm**
 12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သမားတော်"(အပိုင်း-၆၅)
- 8:00 pm**
 13. News
- 8:00 pm**
 14. International news
- 8:00 pm**
 15. Weather report
- 8:00 pm**
 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်စရာပျိုကညာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၀)
- 8:00 pm**
 17. The next day's programme



Sunday, 7 October
Tune in today

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music
-Morning star
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music
-And the story goes
- 8:50 am** National news
Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music
-Just a little piece of heaven
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Cultural images of Myanmar
-Myanmar umbrella
- 9:20 am** Music:
-O lover
- 1:30 pm** News /slogan
- 1:40 pm** Children's delight (story)
-The bridegroom for Miss Mouse
- 1:50 pm** Songs for children
- 9:00 pm** Weekly news review
- 9:10 pm** Article
- 9:20 pm** Music/LIETS
-Away from the sun
-So cold
- 9:45 pm** News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL

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People's Desire

- ★ We favour stability.
- ★ We favour peace.
- ★ We oppose unrest and violence.

- ★ RFA, VOA and BBC airing skyful of lies
- ★ RFA, VOA and BBC saboteurs, watch your step!
- ★ The public be warned of
killers in the air waves —
RFA, VOA and BBC

- ★ Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation
- ★ BBC lying
VOA deceiving
RFA setting up hostilities
- ★ Beware! Don't be bought by those slickers

523 detainees involved in protests released 1,215 have been released up to date

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct — Those who led the protests in September and those involved and those who supported the protests were detained and are being questioned. As the persons who unknowingly joined the protests are also violators of the law, the authorities are releasing them after they had signed the pledge. Up to 4 October, the authorities have already released 692 persons.

Altogether 517 persons were released on 5 October and six persons on 6 October after they had signed the pledge. Up to now, 1,215 have been released.

According to the investigations, more 78 persons who were involved in the protests are being questioned.—MNA

398 monks sent back to respective monasteries

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct — Authorities concerned exposed monks and novices who led, involved in, and supported the protests occurred in some townships in Yangon Division in September.

Altogether 533 monks were taken from the monasteries as it was difficult to differentiate between real monks and bogus ones. Among them, 398 monks have been sent back to their respective monasteries.—MNA