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Sunday, 21 October, 2007

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

Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein enjoys Suvannasama Drama Contest



Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein enjoys Suvannasama Drama Contest. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—Suvannasama Drama Contest of the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions went on today at the University of Veterinary Science in Nay Pyi Taw Yezin at 7 pm.

Patron of the Leading Committee for Holding the Performing Arts Competitions Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein enjoyed the performance of the troupe representing Ayeyawady Division.

Among the audience were Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Leading Committee Chairman Nay Pyi Taw Command Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Leading Committee Vice-Chairman Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, the deputy ministers, members of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin, departmental heads, officials of the Leading Committee, Work Committee and Sub-committees, contestants and the people. The drama was directed by U Than Win (Hinthada) and script writer was U Ko Ko Gyi (Hinthada).

MNA

Chan Mya Aye

Aunty Sun, we are living in hope
I or
Our only wish is to see a win-win situation -2

In the finale of Suvannasama jataka, the two parents regained sight, Suvannasama, the Buddha-to-be was recovered from fatal poisoned arrow wound and came back home carrying a pot of gold on his shoulder, and celestial beings said "Well Done" with great pleasure. It is a story with a glorious and happy ending in Myanmar culture and a model for all of us to follow and take lessons from it. I wish a glorious and happy ending in solving our political problems. Please let us enjoy happiness and auspiciousness. I firmly hope that the solution will result in a glorious and happy ending like the Suvannasama jataka and will ensure benefits for the nation and the people, joy for government, satisfaction for Aunty Suu and NLD, and pleasure for global countries including the ASEAN and neighbours. We the people are so eager to see Aunty Suu's positive steps.

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

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PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 21 October, 2007

Work hard in concert for emergence of genuine democratic nation

The government, in its drive for national development, has given priority to national reconsolidation and mobilized the harmonious participation of the entire people.

In recognition of the government's benevolent attitude, 17 major national race armed groups and other small groups have returned to the legal fold, and are now joining hands with the government in the undertakings for development of their regions. As a result, the regions that have made peace are enjoying the taste of peace and stability along with rapid development.

Now, the government is implementing the State's seven-step Road Map for emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation, as aspired by the entire people. The National Convention, the first step of the seven-step Road Map, has been convened successfully.

Moreover, it has formed the Commission for Drafting the State Constitution.

In cooperation with the government, the people are to ward off the agitation and made-up stories of internal and external destructive elements that are specially designed to destabilize the nation and undermine the peaceful life of the people.

At a time when the government is working hard for building a genuine democratic nation, the entire people have to do their bit in step-by-step implementation of the Road Map and work in concert in the tasks for restoration of peace and stability and prevalence of law and order.

Cuban, Belizean officials meet to enhance cooperation

HAVANA, 20 Oct— Cuban and Belizean officials on Thursday started a two-day meeting in Cuba's capital of Havana to enhance cooperation and bilateral relations.

Belizean Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Lisa Shoman headed her country's delegation to the 10th Session of the Cuba-Belize Intergovernmental Commission on 18-19 October at the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Investment and Economic Cooperation in the capital.

The two sides will discuss cooperation in economy and science, aiming to reinforce bilateral ties.

During her stay, Shoman will meet several Cuban officials and pay a visit to Havana's Latin American School of Medicine, where about 80 Belizeans are studying.

Some 127 Belizeans have graduated from Cuban schools. Among them, 116 Beligeans graduated from universities and 11 from high schools. Cuba and Belize established official relations on 14 July, 1995.

MNA/Xinhua

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

Provisions donated to four monasteries in Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct — Staff families of the Ministry of Industry-1, Mandalay Division Union Solidarity and Development Association and industrialists in Mandalay collectively donated provisions to four monasteries in Mandalay on 18 October.

At a ceremony to donate provisions to members of the Sangha held at Kanbawza Htutmyat Monastery in Maha Dabayin Monastery Compound in Aungmyethazan Township, the congregation led by Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Secretariat Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw

Han received the Five Precepts from a Sayadaw and donated robes, 80 bags of rice, soap, toothpaste tubes and exercise books to members of the Sangha.

Afterwards, Commander Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Minister U Aung Thaung and Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and wellwishers went to Maha Thandaryon Monastery in Aungmyethazan Township and donated 100 bags of rice, edible oil, soap, paper and toothpaste tubes to the monastery.

Similarly, Minister U Aung Thaung and wellwishers also donated provisions to Myataung Monastery in Mahaaungmye Township and Waso Monastery in Maha Withoddayon Monastery Compound in Mahaaungmye Township.

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Mass rally against recent protests held in Mongshu Township, Shan State (South)

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—Those who favour stability of the State, prevalence of law and order and community peace in Mongshu Township, Shan State (South) held a mass rally on 17 October against the recent protests staged by some monks and members of the National League for Democracy.

Some 13,000 people from ten village-tracts and four wards of Mongshu on 17 October morning marched along U Aung Myat Road from Sao San Htun Street to Nawade Street and then along Bogyoke Road to Myoma Sports Ground, chanting slogans such as "Our Three Main National

Causes" and "the sevenstep Road Map must meet with success" and holding placards that read "We

favour stability", "We favour peace", "We oppose unrest and violence", "We don't accept foreign sub-

jugation", and "Ward off internal and external destructive elements".

MNA



Local residents marching to the mass rally in Mongshu Township.

MNA



INTERNATIONAL N E W S

Bhutto-led party announces 3-day mourning

ISLAMABAD, 20 Oct — The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) led by former prime minister Benazir Bhutto Friday announced three days' countrywide mourning after attacks on the party's rally that killed over 130 and wounded more than 500 people.

In the three-day mourning, party flag at the PPP offices throughout Pakistan would be lowered at half-mast and black flags will be hoisted to mourn the tragic incident, according to local Press reports.

Bhutto was unhurt. narrowly escaping with her life as the blasts ripped through the police escort of the parade in the streets of the southern Pakistani city of Karachi.

Meanwhile, the death toll from the attacks has risen to 138, according to the private GEO TV.

Two explosions went off shortly after midnight close to the vehicle Bhutto was travelling in, at the head of a procession of hundreds of thousands of PPP supporters who had flooded the streets of Karachi to welcome the return of their leader. A small explosion erupted near the front of the vehicle. That was quickly followed by a larger blast just feet from the truck, setting an escorting police van on fire and breaking windows in Bhutto's vehicle.

MNA/Xinhua





Performers of the Zhejiang Xiaobaihua Shaoxing Opera Troupe stage the new edition of Shaoxing Opera "the Butterfly Lovers" in Nantong, east China's Jiangsu Province, on 18 Oct, 2007. —INTERNET

Natalya Andreyeva of Moscow

smiles as she receives congratulations after she won the Beauty of Russia contest in Moscow in early hours of 19 Oct, *2007*. Internet

Report says most fake bombs missed at US airport screeners

Washington, 19 Oct — More than 60 per cent of fake bombs hidden on undercover agents posing as passengers were missed by security screeners at two busiest US airports last year, a newspaper reported on Thursday.

A report by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) shows about 75 per cent simulated explosive and bomb parts TSA staff hid under their clothes and in carry-on luggage have been missed at the Los Angeles International Airport, and about 60 per cent were let go at the Chicago O'Hare International Airport.

The failure rate stunned the security experts, said

"That's a huge cause for concern," said Clark Kent Ervin, the former Homeland Security Department inspector general to the newspaper.

MNA/Xinhua

Putin warns Washington over missile shield

Moscow, 19 Oct — Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday the United States was seeking ways to resolve differences over a planned missile shield, but warned that Moscow could re-deploy weapons

if its concerns were not heeded.

Washington plans to place interceptor missiles in Poland and a radar system in the Czech Republic as part of a shield it says is needed to counter possible missile attacks from "rogue states" such as Iran and North Korea.

Russia says the shield is a threat to its own security. US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Defence Secretary Robert Gates were in

issue last week. "The latest contacts

Moscow for talks on the

with our American colleagues show that they have indeed given some thought to the proposals we made and they are looking for a solution to the problems and for ways to ease our concerns," Putin said.

But Putin, in an annual three-hour question-andanswer session aired live on state television, said Russia would take retaliatory steps if its interests were not taken into account.

MNA/Reuters

Iraq says security contractor Blackwater must go

Washington, 19 Oct— is what the Iraqi Iraq put more pressure on the United States on Thursday to pull out security contractor Blackwater from Baghdad but the State Department said no decision had been made on the North Carolina firm.

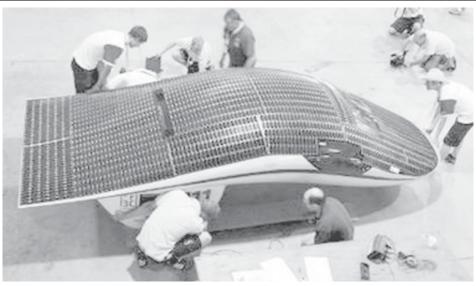
Iraqi Government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh told reporters at the White House Blackwater must be held accountable for its conduct in a September 16 shooting incident that killed 17 people and has enraged Iraqis.

"We would like Blackwater to leave Iraq, this is at the end their position, this is the State Department position," said Dabbagh. "There is an anger, a great anger among the Iraqis against Blackwater. They should be kept accountable, this Government needs. It is a crime what they did in Baghdad, we have declared it," he added.

But State Department spokesman Tom Casey said no final decision had

been taken on Blackwater and the department was awaiting the outcome of several investigations, including a top-level review of security contractors overall.

MNA/Reuters



Germany's University of Bochum solar car team prepares their entry, Solar World No 1, in Darwin on 19 Oct, 2007 for the World Solar Challenge race which begins this weekend. The World Solar Challenge is a biennial event where Teams are required to research, build and design vehicles capable of completing the 3,000-km (1,864 miles) journey from Darwin in the Northern Territory, to Adelaide in South Australia. —Internet

US House apologizes to mistakenly-detained Canadian

Washington, 19 Oct | — The US House of Representatives made an apology on Thursday to a Canadian citizen who has been mistakenly detaining by authorities as a terrorist suspect for almost one year.

"Let me personally give you what our government has not: an apology," said Democratic Representative Bill Delahunt at a subcommittee joint hearing. "Let me apologize to you and the Canadian people for our government's role in a mistake."

Maher Arar, a 37year-old Syrian-born Canadian, was arrested by US Homeland Security agents on 26 September, 2002, as he made a stopover at New York's John F Kennedy International Airport on his way home. Days later, he was sent to Syria for a detention, where he said he was tortured for almost a year without charges.

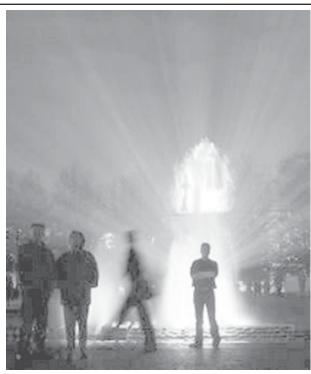
After being released, the Canadian Government apologized to Arar for its part in the mistake and decided to compensate him with about 10 million US dollars. But the US Government has not taken any move to amend the fault.

Arar's case was included in an extraordinary rendition programme, meaning that terror suspects are grabbed by government agents and taken to another country where local authorities may torture confessions out of them.

Democrats attempted to end the rendition programme but the government noted it would be a vital tool in anti-terror efforts.

MNA/Xinhua





People stand in front of a light beamer near Berliner Dom during the "Festival of Lights" in Berlin on 16 Oct, 2007. Landmarks of the German capital, including boulevards, squares, towers, historical and modern buildings, will be illuminated for one week from 16 to 28 Oct during the festival.—Internet

Snowball, an 11-year-old medium sulfur-crested Eleonora cockatoo, dances to the Backstreet Boys song 'Everybody (Backstreet's Back)' in the Schererville, Ind, home of Irena Schulz, on 16 Oct, 2007. Internet

A flooded Indian street. Tweleve people died and eleven sustained severe injuries in southern India when an apartment building collapsed after heavy rain, police said on 20 Oct,

Belgian, Dutch fugitives caught on Thai island

Bangkok, 19 Oct — Three Belgian and two Dutch fugitives alleged to be part of a major drug trafficking ring in Belgium were arrested on the southern Thai island of Samui on Thursday after tip-offs from Belgian officials, Thai police said.

The five were sought by Belgium after 125 kilos (275 pounds) of heroin, 200 kilos (440 pounch) of cocaine and 350 tons of marijuana were seized in

Belgium in November last year, Thai police said.

The value of the drugs in Belgium was estimated at five billion baht (150 million US dollars), they said in a statement. It identified the two Dutchmen as Ronald Koornwinder, 55, and Paulus Meyer, 44 and the three Belgians as Koen Vanstaay, 29, Kelly Cautereels, 25 and Pedro Jose Noves Gracia, 40.

MNA/Reuters

Ship sinks off Indonesia's Sulawesi, 15 dead

JAKARTA, 19 Oct — An Indonesian passenger ship capsized off the island of Sulawesi, killing 15 people and leaving six missing, a Transport Ministry official said on Friday.

The small wooden ship, carrying 71 passengers and 11 crew, sank on Thursday night just before reaching the town of Baubau in southeastern Sulawesi, Transport Ministry spokesman Bambang Ervan said. "Preliminary investigations have indicated that the ship may have sunk because passengers piled onto one side... tipping its balance and causing it to roll over," he said. "It wasn't because of a big wave. The weather was normal."

The safety record of Indonesian passenger ships and ferries, widely used to connect the thousands of islands in the archipelago, is poor with vessels frequently overloaded and in poor condition. — MNA/Reuters

Hunt for killers of shot teenager in Britain

London, 19 Oct — Detectives hunting the killers of a 16-year-old boy shot dead in a Sheffield park promised on Thursday to protect any witnesses who came forward.

Jonathan Matondo was found by police and paramedics in a recreation area in the Burngreave part of the city at about 7:30 pm on Wednesday.

A post mortem revealed he had died from a single bullet wound to the head. "He was only 16, much too young to die and much loved by his friends, family and all the community," his uncle Armand Vibila told a Press conference.

MNA/Reuters



ROUEN (France). 19 Oct — The bodies of five newborn babies have been discovered in a plastic bag in a cellar in northern France, a judicial source said on Thursday.

A 35-year-old woman, who admitted giving birth to the babies between 1999 and 2006, and her boyfriend were held for questioning.

The boyfriend found the bodies after smelling rotting flesh and alerted the police on Wednesday night. It was not immediately known whether the boyfriend was the father of any of the babies. One of the bodies had a plastic bag on its head, in a sign the infant may have been suffocated after its birth.

The case is the third of its kind to make headlines in France in a year.

In August, police discovered the bodies of three babies hidden in boxes in a house in eastern France. — MNA/Reuters



ECONOMIC ЕШЅ

India offers Nigeria \$900m for economic agenda

has offered a 900million-US-dollar grant to Nigeria to assist the implementation Nigerian President Umar Musa Yar'Adua's sevenpoint economic agenda, local media reported on Wednesday.

India made such offer during its Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit | signed by the two sides

Lagos, 19 Oct — India to Nigeria on Monday and Tuesday.

> Nigerian Foreign Minister Ojo Maduekwe, while briefing journalists on the outcome of Singh's visit, said it was a clear indication that the visit was not just a government to government affairs but a multifaceted one.

He said the agreements

involved key areas such as defence matters, agriculture, power generation and civil aviation.

In respect of defence, Maduekwe said it was agreed that the long military relationship between the two countries would be strengthened, just as it was agreed that India would establish two information technology laboratories in defence academies in Nigeria.

He said, "In the energy and power generation, the rapidly growing partnership will be further encouraged. A new civil aviation agreement will be entered into within six months."

"Other areas for one form of cooperation or the other are in the field of culture, education, science and technology and information and communication," he said.

MNA/Xinhua



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 19 Oct, 2007. US stocks sank Friday as worries about more problems in the bank sector, slower corporate earnings growth, the weak dollar, and record-high oil prices all came to a head.—Internet

Oil extends rally to over \$90 a barrel

New York, 19 Oct — Oil prices extended a record rally to above 90 US dollars a barrel on Thursday as weakness in the dollar, tight fuel inventories and geopolitical concerns drew a wave of investor buying.

Oil's climb of about 13 per cent since last week has renewed concerns that soaring energy costs could hinder world economic growth and raised a red

flag for OPEC, which may call an early formal meeting to discuss output.

US crude oil futures hit a record 90.02 US dollars in electronic trading activity after settling earlier Thursday afternon in New York with a gain of 2.07 US dollars at 89.47 US dollars a barrel. It was the fifth straight trading day that oil set a record high.

London Brent crude

rose 1.47 US dollars to 84.60 US dollars.

"This is a market that is watching the dollar weakness very closely and as long as the dollar remains weak and stockpiles at the market's delivery point Oklahoma remain low, this market will keep heading north," said Jim Ritterbusch, president of Ritterbusch and Associates. — MNAReuters

are on the rise in the run-up to Christmas despite a wave of product recalls that have shaken confidence in the safety of Chinese-made goods, the country's product safety chief said on Wednesday.—Internet

A visitor looks at dolls on display at the Shanghai

Toy Expo on 18 Oct, 2007. Orders for Chinese toys

Novartis to cut more than 1,000 jobs in US Geneva, 20 Oct — Swiss pharmaceutical

giant Novartis said on Thursday that it would cut 1,260 jobs in the United States among a series of setbacks in the US market.

of a reorganization of Novartis' pharmacal development system in the United States, which is responsible for getting new drugs through clinical trials.

The job cuts are The decision is part expected to save the

company 230 million US dollars annually, said the Basel-based company in a statement. The Swiss firm has suffered several setbacks to key drugs this year, impacting its share price which has dropped 11 per cent since January,

the Swissinfo website reported.

The launch of one key product — Galvus for diabetes — was delayed in the United States because of safety concerns. Galvus has been approved for Europe but will not be resubmitted in the United States before 2009. And last month, US regulators denied approval for the painkiller Prexige. MNA/Xinhua



A customer pays at a self service counter in the 'restaurant of the future' at the Dutch university of Wageningen, Eastern Netherlands, on 10 Oct, 2007 file photo. — INTERNET

Biofuel production promoted in Argentina

Buenos Aires, 20 Oct — Argentina's Renova company seeks to become one of the world's largest biofuel producers after its Tuesday inauguration of a new plant in the country, local Press said Thursday.

The plant has cost 30 million US dollars on construction and will have an annual biodiesel production capacity of about 230,000 tons, the local media

quoted the company's official document as saying.

The plant, located in San Lorenzo in the country's Santa Fe Province, is the second of the company. It was built together with a soya bean and sunflower grinding centre where biofuel will come from. Thecompany's first plant, located in Avellaneda of Rio Negro Province, currently generates about

50,000 tons of biodiesel per year. The plant is going to be the first of a series of investment, aiming to make the region extending from San Lorenzo to San Martin Port the largest "biodiesel centre" worldwide.

Biodiesel surges as a great opportunity for the country's agriculture and new investments since the oil price remains high.

MNA/Xinhua



Chinese ceramist Huang Maijiu (Front), paints during an exchange programme of China and foreign ceramists in Jingdezhen, a city of east China's Jiangxi Province, on 19 Oct, 2007, during the ongoing 2007 China Jingdezhen International Ceramic Fair. —XINHUA

State bank says China helps Africa where West failed

Beijing, 19 Oct— China is spreading prosperity in Africa where the West failed, a Chinese bank official said on Thursday in a sharp rebuke to critics of his country's growing role in the world's poorest continent.

Li Ruogu, president of China's state-owned Export-Import Bank, key funder of China's push into Africa, said roads and radios were more urgent needs for Africans than human rights and freedom, and that China was delivering such concrete benefits.

"Western colonialism over 400 years in Africa did not bring any development and wealth," Li said. "But China has brought many benefits to Africa."

After 50 billion US dollars in debt write-offs for impoverished

countries mainly in Africa last year, Western donors fear China's expanding economic links with the continent could lead to a build-up in burdensome debts all over again.

Speaking in Chinese during a meeting on the sidelines of China's Communist Party Congress, Li switched to English momentarily to characterise Western criticism as "totally groundless and totally fabrication".

"Western countries talk about human rights and freedom every day, but if the people there can't

even watch television or listen to radio, how can they enjoy human rights and freedom?" Li said.

China has recently claimed credit for persuading Sudan to accept UN peacekeepers in the troubled Darfur region and it has won praise from the United States for its "constructive role" in dealings with Khartoum.

ExIm Bank has also been working to address some concerns of international donors, signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the World Bank earlier this year to improve coordination of development projects.

As one of China's three policy lenders that make loans explicitly in support of government policies, ExIm Bank has invested in some 300 projects across Africa with a focus on building roads, railways, ports and mines.

China argues its own rapid growth and experience in lifting more than 400 million people out of poverty over past 20 years could provide valuable lessons to Africans.

MNA/Reuters



JK Rowling poses with a copy of her new book 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows's at the Natural History Mseum in London on 20 July, 2007 file photo.

Severe floods kill 5, displace over 120,000 in central Uganda

KAMPALA, 20 Oct — Severe floods in central Uganda have killed at least five people and displaced over 120,000 in Mubende District, a district official has said

Ziad Kalema, the district vice chairperson, was quoted by the *Daily Monitor* on Friday saying that three of the victims drowned at a washed away bridge at River Kitumbi in Kitumbi sub-county.

The bridge, which links Kiboga and Mubende Districts, was washed away late last month, following days of heavy rain.

He said the two others died earlier when a bicycle they were riding on through the flooded Nyangoma River on the Kasambya-Kitenga Road in Kagando sub-county, slid and fell into the river.

He said the flood has cut off four sub-counties from the rest of Mubende, leaving about 120,000 people helpless

The floods, which have swept away so far two bridges, have forced the district officials to close traffic on the Bukuya-Izanyiro Road and Bukuya-Kitumbi Road.

"Those roads are now a no go area and whoever dares to use them does so at his/her own risk," he said.

The central districts are currently facing the brunt of days of heavy rain after the northern and eastern parts of the country have faced months of flooding.

MNA/Xinhua

Storm, rainfall cause loss of \$1.96m in S Bangladesh

DHAKA, 19 Oct— The recent storm and heavy rainfall due to depression in the Bay of Bengal has caused loss of over 137 million taka (about 1.96 million US dollars) in agriculture and fisheries sectors of Bangladesh's southern coastal Bagerhat District.

District.

District Disaster
Management and Relief
office was quoted by
private news agency UNB
Thursday as saying that
the storm that swept over
the district in last three
days till Wednesday more
or less caused damage to
most parts of all nine subdistricts in Bagerhat, 140
kilometres southwest of
capital Dhaka.

The storm damaged 1,590 dwelling houses, standing crops on 100 acres (40.5 hectares) of

DHAKA, 19 Oct— The cent storm and heavy infall due to depression the Bay of Bengal has land and uprooted 50,000 trees, causing loss of 77.0 million taka (about 1.1 million US dollars).

Fish worth 60 million taka (about 857,000 US dollars) was washed away, the fish cultivators claimed. Moreover, 30,000 people in different sub-districts were living

in the dark till Wednesday as 26 electric poles have been uprooted in the district due to the storm.

The government has allocated 200,000 taka

(about 2,857 US dollars) for the affected people of the district, which covers an area of 3,959 square kilometres.

MNA/Xinhua

Wipro Limited Chairman Azim Premji speaks while announcing the company's quarterly financial results at their headquarters, in Bangalore, India, on 19 Oct, 2007. —Internet



Kurds rally in Iraq against Turkish incursion vote

ARBIL, 19 Oct—
Thousands of Kurds,
many of them students,
marched on the UN offices
in the Kurdish capital
Arbil on Thursday to
protest the Turkish
Parliament's authorization of military incursi
Carrying banners with
slogans in English,
Kurdish, Turkish and
Arabic, the marchers
called for peaceful dialogue with their northern

neighbour to end the crisis and vowed to resist any military invasion of their Kurdistan region.

Turkey's Parliament voted overwhelmingly on Wednesday to give the military the go-ahead to hunt down PKK rebels hiding out in Kurdistan's mountains who are blamed for a rising number of attacks on Turkish troops.

MNA/Reuters

Diarrhoea claims 19 in Nepal

Kathmandu, 19 Oct — Diarrhoea outbreak has killed at least another 19 people in Nepal, local leading media group's website Nepalnews reported on Thursday. In Ghaulagoh Village Development Committee (VDC) in remote Kalikot District, some 400 kilometres west of capital Kathmandu, at least 16 died of Diarrhea in the last six days.

The victims of diarrhoea outbreak, most of whom were children and elderly people, died due to lack of medicines. The District Public Health Office of Kalikot has sent a medical team to the affected area, but drugs are in short supply in local health centers.

More than 500 people in different villages in the VDC have been affected by diarrhoea.

Similarly, three people have died of diarrhoea in Tejapakad and Maryadapur VDCs in Rautahat District, some 110 kilometres south of Kathmandu. A four-year old girl and a youth died Wednesday while a death was reported on Thursday morning. Dozens of diarrhoea patients have been undergoing treatment at the district hospital in Gaur.

The number of patients in Rautahat is growing in these VDCs due to polluted drinking water and lack of sanitation. — MNA/Xinhua

Lt-Gen Ye Myint offers rice, edible oil to Sayadaws for 23rd Shwegyin Nikaya Vinaya Examination

Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence this morning attended the rice and edible oil donation ceremony of Mandalay Division PDC at Sasana Hitakari Dhamma Beikman of Maha Wizitayon Monastery Chanayethazan Township for the 23rd Shwegyin Nikaya Vinaya Examination.

Also present on the occasion were State Ovadaçariya Sangharaja of Shwegyin Gana Zeyamedani Waso Monastery Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Agghiya, Chairman of Mandalay Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Shwegyin)

Monasterv Dahattaw Nayaka Presiding Sayadaw Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Sujatasara, Wizitavon Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Viçarindabhivamsa, Secretary of the Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Shwegyin) Padamya Monastery Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Paññajotabhivamsa, Chairman of Chanayethazan Township Sangha Nayaka Committee (Shwegyin) Saddhamma Maha Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Vannita and members of the Sangha, Chairman of Mandalay Division PDC Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and wife, Chairman Mandalay City

Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and wife, Deputy Chief Justice U Khin Maung Latt, senior military officers, departmental officials and disciples.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint, the commander, the mayor, senior military officers and departmental officials donated meals to the Sayadaws.

14th Sangharaja of Shwegyin Gana Sayadaw Bhaddanta Agghiya administered the Five Precepts.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint offered alms to the Shwegyin Sangharaja Sayadaw.

The commander and wife, the mayor and wife, senior military officers departmental officials also donated provisions to Sayadaws.



Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence offers provisions to a Sayadaw.—MNA

The Chairman of the Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Shwegyin) and the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Maha Wizitayon Monastery

delivered sermons, and Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party shared merits gained.

Mandalay Division PDC donated 100 bags of

rice and 50 viss of edible oil to members of the Sangha for the 23rd Shwegyin Nikaya Vinaya Examination.

MNA

Maha Doat Drama Contest (marionette) continues

Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Oct—The amateur level (First Class) Maha Doat Drama (marionette) Contest of the 15th Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions took place at the Agricultural Research Department in Nay Pyi Taw Yezin at 7 pm today.

Among the spectators were Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint, Deputy Attorney-General Dr Tun Shin, heads of department, officials of the Work Committee and sub-committees, enthusiasts from Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township and Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township and others.

Myanmar Cultural Yokson Thabin marionette troupe led by University of Culture (Mandalay) representing Mandalay Division took part in the contest.

The 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural **Performing Arts Competitions**

Marionette Contest

No	Date	Division
1.	22.10.07	Ayeyawady Division
2.	24.10.07	Yangon Division
3.	27.10.07	Sagaing Division

MNA



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence enjoys marionette contest.—MNA

Aunty Suu, we are living in hope

Our only wish is to see a win-win situation -2

Chan Mya Aye

I will now continue the second part of my article.

Aunty Suu, you were continuously attacking the government while trying to realize your policy of confrontation, defying authority and grabbing power through short-cut in addition to jeopardizing the National Convention. We also heard you slamming the government constantly at the talks and public meetings you were holding in front of your house weekly and giving addresses and sending messages opposing the government on international days. The worst was the NLD announcement No 35 (8/98) issued on 23-6-1998. Actually, you opened a new front with the announcement demanding to convene the Hluttaw within 60 days before 21 August. Aunty Suu demanded the convening of the Hluttaw as a form of a struggle laying down a strategy to convene the Hluttaw in accord with her own schedule, to generate a civil commotion with the intention of protecting the Hluttaw from any acts to halt the scheme and to pave the way for the UN and international community to intervene if unrest and demonstrations erupted. I did not think you had an idea that we the people were so anxious with the thought that something bad might happen after drawing a conclusion that it was an extremely dangerous strategy.

I assume that Aunty Suu came to realize that the front - the demand to convene the Hluttaw - was not enough. Aunty Suu in deliberate defiance of the government's restrictions toured Taikkyi or Nyaungdon or other places in July and August 1998. The worst was that Aunty Suu stopped her convoy at Htantabin Anyasu on Yangon-Nyaungdon Road, staging protests for days. I still remember your solitary protest during which you were so haughty that you stopped your line of cars on the public highway; makeshift tents including toilets had to be built. In the end you had to go back home in accord with the wish of party members as you failed to incite a civil unrest as you did not win public support and the last date (21 August) to convene the Hluttaw had passed. The incident at Yangon Railway Station is still in my memory. As you were staging antigovernment activities and confrontations in violation of the law, the government had to impose restrictions on you at your home for the second time on 21-9-2001. At that time, I was able to accept the fact that the government did what was actually necessary. Aunty Suu, you have destroyed our faint hope.

Even though we the people assumed the situation to be hopeless it seemed that the government had not given up the process of national reconsolidation. We have known that the group led by the Head of State met Aunty Suu four times and another group comprising ministers met you 20 times while you were under restrictions. The Head of State hosted dinner for Aunty Suu and NLD members at the Guest House at 14 Inywa Road on 29-1-2002 evening leading to frank discussions between you and the government. The government showed its true goodwill and seriousness. We have learnt that you agreed to end all acts that would generate disturbances and outdoor meetings and to hold only indoor meetings with the number of participants less than 50. We were supposing that Aunty Suu had changed her intentions as a settlement might have reached after a series of discussions. The government seemed to believe so. So it is believed the government again lifted the restrictions imposed on you in accord with the settlement on 6-5-2002. In accord with the mutual agreement, Aunty Suu was allowed to launch organizational campaigns in the nation. You were even cooperating with officials concerned in arranging itineraries and schedules for reopening of township offices. They were positive signs. We believed that with this trend the political goal of our

nation would not be so far.

Thanks to the government's concessions, Aunty Suu was able to visit Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady divisions and Mon, Kayin, Shan, Rakhine and Chin states, carrying out party functions in 95 townships from June 2002 to April 2003. In addition you were treated as a VIP studying national developments in every place you visited. It seems that although Aunty Suu did things as agreed in advance in her early trips, but relapsed into her old ways later.

Beginning from her tour to Chin State, Aunty Suu started to travel at night, and tried to cause confusion and gave anti-government talks at public meetings. It was Aunty Suu that initiated the idea of defiance – To launch struggles for keeping political activities alive. The truth is that Aunty Suu herself left the road to national reconsolidation and went back to the path to defiance and confrontation.

During the trips to Sagaing Division. Kachin State and Shan State that started on 6-5-2003, Aunty Suu's followers and NLD's cars and motorcycles unruly moved on the road. They even tried to provoke quarrels with and challenge the on-lookers, those who took photos and those who expressed their wishes peacefully as they did not accept Aunty Suu. So the problems grew even to the level of causing clashes between them and the public. In the end there broke out a fight between NLDs and your followers on one side and the local people who could not tolerate your anarchic acts any more on the other side at Dabayin on 30-5-2003. It was indeed a disappointing and sorrowful incident. Both sides should exercise restraint to avert the brawl. Anyhow, because of the brawl Aunty Suu was put under restrictions for the third time at her own house on 30-5-2003. If I were a person responsible for maintaining and restoring national peace and stability, I would have decided the same.

There were some groups assuming that Aunty Suu purposely created the situation so that she would be put under restrictions again. They said, "If she can travel freely like that the government's international image will improve and the NLD's international support will dwindle and the economic sanctions will be lifted. Aunty Suu cannot accept that tendency." Other sources said, "There was growing concern as public support for Aunty Suu was falling as more and more people knew about her true nature with the passage of time. So, she deliberately generated the brawl for the government to take action against her. Only then will the international community condemn the government as the one keeping up restrictions on her and crushing the NLD. That was her basic aim." I have no idea whether those views are right or wrong. Most of the people including me have accepted with understanding that what the government did is actually necessary; and that it does not have any intention at all to impose restrictions on Aunty Suu.

Will Aunty Suu apply her old method of opposing the government, confrontation, generating (See page 9)

Thanks to the government's concessions, Aunty Suu was able to visit Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady divisions and Mon, Kayin, Shan, Rakhine and Chin states, carrying out party functions in 95 townships from June 2002 to April 2003. In addition you were treated as a VIP studying national developments in every place you visited. It seems that although Aunty Suu did things as agreed in advance in her early trips, but relapsed into her old ways later.

Aunty Suu, we are...

(from page 8)

civil commotion and defying authority again if the restriction order imposed on her is lifted? If she is restricted even if she promises not to apply those methods again, it can be said that the ones who impose restriction order on her are at fault. But to the extent of my knowledge, outsiders are saying that Aunty Suu is so stubborn. Her arrogant behaviour of thinking herself as always better than others, assuming what she says is always right and must be obeyed without fail and using threats for failure to obey her is spreading outside the NLD through the whisper of the party members. Aunty Suu herself will know best whether they are right or wrong. Because of the given situation, there are criticisms saying that NLD has no inter-party democracy. If you amend yourself, Aunty Suu, you will become a valuable politician.

Even under restriction order, Aunty Suu has been enjoying full security and health care and other necessary services at her home. Aunty Suu knows best the offers for dialogue made by the government again and again. The Head of State has met her many times and paved the way to create a better situation. You should understand those positive attitudes like I do. I have learned that when Mr Gambari visited Myanmar for the first time in May 2006, the government asked you to send written messages concerning your wishes and opinions to the Head of State through the UN special envoy; and that the government would consider fulfilling them. But there was no development. So, I was wondering whether Mr Gambari failed to convey messages to Aunty Suu or you yourself have rejected the offers outright. My view is that Aunty Suu should effectively use the many ways paved by the government.

As I know very well the government's endeavours for building a democratic nation and keeping in the fore national interest, I as an ordinary member of the public will have to stand by the truth. I am not partial to the government. But I cannot ignore or deny the truth if the government's endeavours are correct and excellent. I hope you will also understand this.

Like us Aunty Suu should have trust in the government's offers as constructive and willing. Aunty Suu, you should view those offers as an opportunity to make a turning-point in Myanmar's history. I am worried that the essence of the offer – an opportunity for dialogue – will be lost in a superficial argument saying that Aunty Suu was not responsible for the four means to block **Myanmar.** The government, the people and the entire world know that Aunty Suu has supported the calls to bar tourists from visiting Myanmar and other economic sanctions. In my view you should accept the fact that the sanctions are not good either for the people or the government or you yourself. One will have to discard even the policy that one has upheld throughout his life if it is bad and wrong. One should have the courage to do so. Aunty Suu, one will be a hero only if one gets rid of the wrong and bad policy with courage.

Aunty Suu, you should not be deceived by foreign media that are attacking the government's offer in unison. You should reconsider your idea of intransigence. Stubborness benefits nobody. We with pleasure accepted Aunty Suu's words that you will join hands with anyone if it serves the national interest. You have said those words many times. But you should prove your words with deeds. I sincerely believe that Aunty Suu too will have to make sacrifices through appropriate and necessary efforts to initiate a meaningful dialogue.

It is the human nature that everyone wants the upper hand. No one would like to hold a dialogue having to make concessions. As both sides will have to go against the human nature to make concessions through coordination, magnanimity and correct attitude are specially required in this matter. Moreover, both sides will have to sacrifice their beliefs and convictions and what they appreciate and what they value in making concessions for the nation or in other words for producing valuable and noble results. The essence of dialogue is the reaching of a mutual agreement through sacrifices and concessions. No dialogue can achieve success without sacrifices and concessions. Aunty Suu, you should understand the nature of giving up something for achieving another that is ten times valuable and beneficial.

Instead of putting blame on each other, means to join hands for finding the truth through concessions will produce practical benefits. In our country we have been blaming one another endlessly since the nation regained independence. Enough is enough. We should love each other without finding fault with others. As the government has already made the official offer, it's your turn now. Aunty Suu's response may bring peace and success to the nation or lead to producing negative results. I write this article for you to weigh up the situation. I wish you chose the way that is good and beneficial for all of us.

We are hearing the voices to cause incitement saying that the government has made the offer to use Aunty Suu in finding an escape from international pressure. I think that extreme ideas, thoughts and criticisms cannot produce any beneficial results at this time. I hope you have already read the UNSC Presidential Statement issued on 11-10-2007. Even the UNSC emphasizes the fact that it welcomes Myanmar's announcement to cooperate with the UN and to assign

a liaison officer to facilitate relations with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The statement calls on the government of Myanmar and other parties concerned to work together towards the positive development of the situation and a peaceful solution. It also urges the government and all parties concerned to cooperate fully with Mr Gambari. Aunty Suu whom do you think the words "all parties concerned" refer to? It is the first time the UN has openly acknowledged that not only the government but also Aunty Suu's NLD is responsible for the development of political situation in Myanmar. I believe Aunty Suu also understands this. And I sincerely trust that it's time you weighed the matter to make a response.

Aunty Suu, now, I have already presented a comprehensive article for you. Anyhow, I have a clear conscience as I have presented this article taking into account the national interest, public interest, Aunty Suu's interest and government's interest fairly. So, please accept what I have presented in the article as the words that came out from the heart of an ordinary person. As the ending part of one of our famous jatakas, we wish to see the son carrying a pot of gold on his shoulder or in other words a win-win situation. Aunty Suu's role is also vital in this matter.

In the finale of Suvannasama jataka, the two parents regained sight, Suvannasama, the Buddha-to-be was recovered from fatal poisoned arrow wound and came back home carrying a pot of gold on his shoulder, and celestial beings said "Well Done" with great pleasure. It is a story with a glorious and happy ending in Myanmar culture and a model for all of us to follow and take lessons from it. I wish a glorious and happy ending in solving our political problems. Please let us enjoy happiness and auspiciousness. I firmly hope that the solution will result in a glorious and happy ending like the Suvannasama jataka and will ensure benefits for the nation and the people, joy for government, satisfaction for Aunty Suu and NLD, and pleasure for global countries including the ASEAN and neighbours. We the people are so eager to see Aunty Suu's positive steps.

When it is a matter between personal interest and party interest, priority should be given to the latter and when it is a matter between party interest and national interest, priority should be given to the national interest. As you have already understood and known the situation more than me, please do not assume that I am giving you unnecessary lecture. We are truly longing for the day on which the stalemate has ended and we can start our successful journey onwards. I pray Aunty Suu begins her positive steps as soon as possible.

(Concluded) **Translation: TMT** *****

The essence of dialogue is the reaching of a mutual agreement through sacrifices and concessions. No dialogue can achieve success without sacrifices and concessions. Aunty Suu, you should understand the nature of giving up something for achieving another that is ten times valuable and beneficial.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife attend dancing and music contests of Performing Arts Competitions



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife Daw San San Yi attend higher education level men's piano contest.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Oct — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw San San Yi attended the dancing and music contests of the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions in Nay Pyi Taw Yezin this afternoon.

After enjoying performance of contestants in

the amateur level (second class) men's dancing contest at the convocation hall of University of Veterinary Science and the higher education level men's piano contest at the hall of Forest Research Division, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife cordially greeted members of the panel of judges of the respective contests.

Accompanied by Deputy Attorney-General U

Myint Naing, Civil Service Selection and Training Board member U Aung Myint and officials, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and wife viewed the participation of students in the basic education level (10-15 age group) Dobat contest at the hall of Agricultural Research Department, and cordially conversed with members of the panel of judges. — MNA

Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command attends Performing Arts Competitions

 The singing, dancing, song composing and music contests of the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the third day at the designated places in Nay Pyi Taw Yezin yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Competitions Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai

Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Oct | Lwin, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, deputy ministers, the deputy auditorgeneral, departmental heads, officials, servicemen and family members of regiments and units in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, local people from Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon and Nay Pyi Taw Lewe townships,

teachers and students of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana BEHS No 2 enjoyed performance of contestants.

The singing contest, supervised Chairperson of the panel of judges Assistant Director (Music) (Retd) Daw Tin Tin Mya of Myanma Radio and Television and party, took place at University of Agriculture. A total of 15 students participated in the basic education level (10-



A contestant from Yangon Division taking part in basic education level (5-10 age group) boys' orchestra (solo) contest.—MNA



A contestant from Mon State participating in basic education level (10-15 age group) boys' piano contest.—MNA

modern song singing contest and 13 persons in the amateur level (second class) women's old/ modern song singing contest.

In the dancing contest, supervised by Chairman of the panel of judges U Sein Mar Din and officials, at the convocation hall of University of Veterinary Science, altogether 21 students took part in the basic education level (10dancing contest.

At the hall of Agricultural Research Department, Chairman of the panel of judges U Maung Maung Latt and party supervised the song composing contest. A total of 13 persons competed in the amateur level (first class) men's and women's song composing contest.

Leader of the panel of judges U Ni Ni and party supervised the piano

15 age group) boys' old/ | 15 age group) girls' | contest at the hall of Forest Research Division. Four contestants competed in the amateur level (first class) women's piano contest and 10 students in the basic education level (10-15 age group) boys' piano contest.

> At the hall of Agricultural Research Department, leader of the panel of judges U Sein Ba Maw and party supervised the amateur level (second

> > (See page 11)

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Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin attends basic education level (10-15 age group) girls' dancing contest.—MNA

Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command...

(from page 10)

class) Ozi contest with the participation of nine contestants and the basic education level (5-10 age group) Ozi contest with the participation of four contestants.

Chairman of the panel of judges U Yee Nwe and party supervised the music contest at University of Agriculture. A total of 10 contestants took part in the amateur level (second class) men's guitar contest, three persons in the amateur level (second class) women's guitar contest, three students in the basic education level (10-15 age group) boys' guitar contest and two in the girls' contest.

At University of Agriculture, leader of the

panel of judges U Sein Satin and party supervised the orchestra contest. Seven students competed in the basic education level (15-20 age group) boys' orchestra solo contest and six students in the basic education level (5-10 age group) boys' orchestra solo contest.



Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

The 15th Myanmar Traditional

Drama						
No	Date	Division				
1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	23.10.07 24.10.07 25.10.07 27.10.07 28.10.07	Sagaing Division Mandalay Division Yangon Division Bago Division Ayeyawady Division				



A contestant from Mandalay Division competing in amateur level (first class) women's piano contest.—MNA

Objectives of the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

- To vitalize patriotism and nationalism that is based on strong Union Spirit.
- To ensure uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and integrity.
- To ensure flourishing of Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine
- To nurture spiritual development of the youths.
- To prevent the influence of alien culture.

The 15th Myanmar Traditional **Cultural Performing Arts Competitions**

Suvannasama Drama

No	Date	Division
1. 2.	21.10.07 22.10.07	Mandalay Division Sagaing Division

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				<u> </u>	

KFC robbed in Durban

JOHANNESBURG, 20 Oct A Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet in South African coastal city of Durban was held up and robbed by five armed men, KwaZulu-Natal police said on Wednesday.

Spokesman Inspector Michael Read said the men wielded 9mm pistols and entered the store in the Whitehouse shopping complex in Durban's Phoenix area shortly after 9 pm on Tuesday.

No customers were in the store and the robbers made off with 5,200 rand (about 750 US dollars) from the tills and staff.

None of the staff were injured and the robbers fled on foot, according to a report by South African Press Association.

MNA/Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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Thailand needs more skilled personnel in electro-industry

BANGKOK, 19 Oct — Thai Deputy Industry Minister said Thailand plans to upgrade personnel in the electrical and electronics industry to stay competitive in the global market, Thai News Agency reported Thursday.

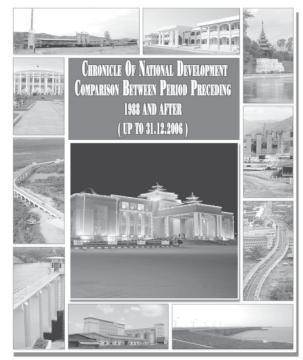
In his speech Wednesday on "Personnel Development Strategy in Electrical and Electronics Industry in 2008", Deputy Industry Minister Piyabutr Cholwicharn said Thailand's electrical and electronics industry has been short of at least 60,000 employees, an obstacle to the growth of the rapidly-expanding

Thailand has to upgrade skills of their personnel to meet new standards in many countries for imported products, Piyabutr said, adding that a 40-million-baht (1.18-million-US-dollar) budget has been allocated to cope with the challenge.

He said the Industry Ministry wanted to develop Thai personnel to focus on designing and manufacturing. According to Kitti Sukhumtanti, an executive of the Federation of Thai Industries, the electrical and electronics industry in Thailand employed 360,000 people and 548,2000 people in 2002 and 2004 respectively, but "they still need at least 50,000 people annually".

There is also a workforce shortage in the software and computer industry, Kitti said.

MNA/Xinhua



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Indonesia honours poverty fight

JAKARTA. 19 Oct — Indonesian people took part in "Stand Up" events across the country on Wednesday in a show of support for global poverty alleviation efforts, local Press reported Thursday.

In the capital city of Jakarta, hundreds of people joined a Stand Up event at Senayan City shopping mall, Ragunan Zoo, Central Jakart and featured dozens of entertainers.

"We are the first generation that can end poverty in our country. We can't waste this historic opportunity," participants shouted, as they raised their hands in support of the Stand Up and Speak Out against Poverty movement.

The United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Representatives for Asia and the Pacific, Erna Witoelar, said Tuesday one million people in Indonesia were

expected to Stand Up against poverty and demand the government speed up efforts to meet the MDGs.

Head of the national organizer for the event, Wilson TP Siahaan, said Stand Up events were simultaneously held in 22 provinces, involving activists, businesspeople, government officials and ordinary citizens.

"But I cannot say yet whether we will meet the target of one million people since many people are still on Idul Fitri (end fasting month) holiday."

50,000 About Indonesians joined the event last year, among the 23.5 million people worldwide who Stood Up against poverty.

According to data from the Central Statistic Agency, in 2007 there were more than 37 million Indonesians living below the poverty line.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia, India sign fighter development accord

Moscow, 19 Oct — Russia and India will jointly modify a fifth-generation Russian fighter aircraft for Indian use under a deal signed on Thursday, Russia's federal service for military and technical cooperation said. India is one of the biggest buyers of Russian weapons and wants to licence the production of Su-*30MKI* fighter jets and *T-90* tanks. Russian shipyards are also building three frigates for India's Navy.

State-run Sukhoi corporation will develop the fifthgeneration fighter for Russia, and under the accord signed after two days of talks, it will then be jointly modified for India.

There was no comment from either delegation on the value or duration of the agreement.

India and China together account for nearly 90 per cent of Russia's arms exports, which totalled 6.4 billion US dollars in 2006 and are expected to reach 7.5 billion US dollars this year. — MNA/Reuters

Chad says US missionary kidnapped by rebels

N'DJAMENA, 19 Oct — A US evangelical church missionary has been kidnapped by rebels in northern Chad, a Chadian Interior Ministry official said on Thursday.

"The governor of the northern BET region has told me that an American

priest has been kidnapped in the Tibesti (mountains) by remaining members of the MDJT rebel movement," Secretary of State for the Interior Abderamane Djasnabaille told Reuters.

"The rebels took his vehicle and they are holding him at Zoumri."

A leader of Chad's Evangelical Church named the kidnapped man as Steve Godbold and said he was seized earlier this month. Other people in his group were also abducted but later released, Pastor Ngardei Bako said. Djasnabaille said negotiations were under way with the Movement for Democracy and Justice in Chad (MDJT) rebels to obtain the release of the kidnapped missionary.

MNA/Reuters

Floods threaten Vietnam World Heritage site

HUE CITY (Vietnam), 19 Oct — Flood waters threatened the central Vietnam World Heritage town of Hoi An on Thursday, drowning at least 10 people and forcing thousands from their homes.

There were also threats of flash floods and landslides in three key coffee growing provinces in the Central Highlands, where rivers were rising following heavy rains earlier this week, the government said in a disaster report.

Heavy rain was falling in Hue, 660 kilometres (410 miles) southeast of Hanoi, swelling floods that have isolated many areas along the northsouth Highway One and forcing people to move around by boat, a Reuters photographer said.

At least 30,000 people

had been moved to higher ground in the provinces of Thua Thien-Hue and Quang Tri, where two people drowned as their boat capsized on Wednesday, the government said.

Five people drowned in Quang Nam Province, many roads were eroded by floods and inundation was threatening to collapse old houses in Hoi An. — MNA/Reuters

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ပညာရေး ဖွင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကိ

Pacific Island blame rich countries for climate change

19 Oct — South Pacific countries on Thursday blamed the climate change on rich economies and called for assistance to the vulnerable island countries' fight against the global problem.

A statement of the Pacific 16-member Islands Forum (PIF) pointed to the urgency in checking the climate change, highlighting the threats to the region, particularly the small island countries.

"The time for action is now, we simply can't economically, environmentally or socially afford to wait until it is too late," said the statement.

The statement was read out by Nauruan President Ludwiq Scotty to the PIF's 14 dialogue partners, which are mostly big economies, at a meeting held after the 38th annual PIF leaders' gathering here.

"Wealthy and highly

Nuku' Alofa (Tonga), | industrialized nations which are mainly responsible for current global warming possess the know-how and resources to adapt while the most severe consequences are felt in poorer and more vulnerable countries," said the statement.

> "Climate change is a daunting and overwhelming threat to the economic, environmental

and social well being of island communities, also threatening the very existence of some of our lowlying atoll countries," it said.

A number of low-lying Pacific atoll countries have expressed their great concerns over the impact of climate change during the Forum meeting.

MNA/Xinhua



Visitors walk past Long March III carrier rocket at the Xichang Satellite Launch Center (XSLC) located in Southwest China's Sichuan Province on 18 Oct, 2007. The country's first moon orbiter, Chang'e I, is set to be launched on 24 October.—Internet



Vehicles move along a 3.46 km-long tunnel under the Dushuhu Lake in Suzhou, East Chin's Jiangsu Province on 10 Oct, 2007. The tunnel is part of the 7.37 km-long Dushuhu bridge and tunnel project, which opened to traffic on Wednesday after more than one year of construction. The tunnel is longest of its kind in China.—INTERNET

Researchers find gene linked with male infertility

CHICAGO, 19 Oct — A single gene may be crucial for the final stages of sperm cell formation and could help explain why some men are infertile, US researchers said on Wednesday.

Laboratory mice who lacked the gene had a

significantly lower sperm count and were infertile, researchers at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill discovered.

And the few sperm the mice did produce had significant defects, they

"Because this gene has a very specific effect on the development of functional sperm, it holds great potential as a target for new infertility treatments," Yi Zhang, a professor of biochemistry biophysics at the university's school of

medicine, said in a statement.

About one in six couples in the United States has difficulty conceiving a child, according to the National Institutes of Health. In 30 to 40 per cent of these 2.6 million couples, the men are infertile.

Zhang's study, which appears in the journal *Nature*, focused on the last stage of sperm cell formation known as spermiogenesis. During this phase, DNA is crammed into a tight ball at the head of the sperm, ensuring that it can successfully penetrate an egg.—MNA/Reuters

The accident took the group reported on its website.

Yuri Kreshkov arranges some 3,000 bottles he has collected over the past 20 years and displayed in his two-room apartment in Kiev on 9 Oct, 2007. Kreshkov's bottles once contained beer, wine and liquor from various parts of the world.—Internet

Russia test fires ballistic missile

Moscow,19 Oct — Russia launched an intercontinental ballistic missile on Thursday from its Plesetsk cosmodrome in the north of the country, a Russian military spokesman said.

The RS-12M Topol', called the SS-25 Sickle by NATO and configured for a mobile platform, successfully was launched at 9:10 am Moscow Time.

The spokesman said the training exercise included hitting a target

at the Kura test range on the Kamchatka Peninsula on Russia's Pacific coast.

The test was part of a reliability evaluation of flight stabilizers the Topol' uses over long distances, and part of a planned extension of the missile's life-span to 23 years.

As configured in 1985, the ICBM has a maximum range of 10,000 kilometres (6,215 miles), and can carry one 550kiloton nuclear warhead. MNA/Reuters

Drunk driving kills seven in Bangkok

BANGKOK, 19 Oct — Seven people were killed and five others severely injured when their pick-up car slammed into a Bangkok road guardrail early Thursday morning.

place in the early morning inbound Kanchanapisek Road in Bangkok's Bang Bon District, local media The Nation

Witnesses told police that the pick-up driven by a Chairat Kingkaew, 30, who was injured, tried to overtake a truck but it lost control and hit into the guardrail before hitting a tree on the roadside.

Police said four people died at the scene and three more died at a hospital. The pick-up was carrying 12 people and had left a fuel station where they were drinking.

A friend of Chairat said a total of 16 people were drinking on the back of the pick-up in a fuel station until they were asked to leave. Four of them rode motorcycles after the pick-up and escaped the accident.

MNA/Xinhua



Premier League

20 Oct, 2007

Aston Villa 1-4 Man Utd

Everton 1-2 Liverpool

Man City 1-0 Birmingham

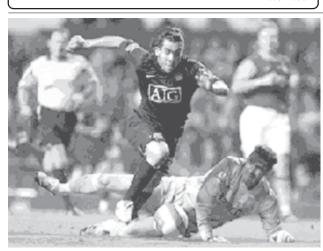
Middlesbrough 0-2 Chelsea

Fulham 0 - 0Derby

Blackburn 4-2 Reading

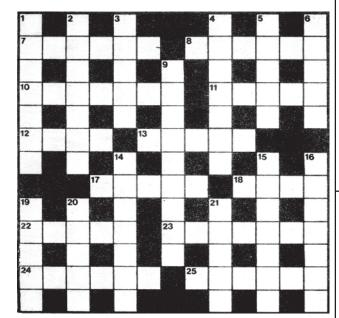
Wigan 0-2Portsmouth

Internet



Manchester United's Carlos Tevez, left, is fouled by Aston Villa's Scott Carson to win a penalty during their English Premier League soccer match at Villa Park, Birmingham, England, on 20 Oct, 2007. —INTERNET

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

7 Cream fat

8 Minute 10 Lack of care

11 Canadian deer

12 Unrestricted tournament

13 Intended

17 Pucker brow

18 Centre

22 Sheep's cry

23 Small fish

24 Limb brace

25 Swamp

DOWN

1 Forsake

2 Walk unsteadily

3 Less

4 Remark

5 Underneath

6 Speak

9 Alternatively

14 Script

15 Funny

16 Let go 19 Treat badly

20 Abdomen

21 Fire crime

Drogba regrets saying he wanted to quit Chelsea

London, 20 Oct — Chelsea striker Didier Drogba said he regretted telling France Football magazine this week that he wanted to quit the Premier League team.

"On reflection, I regret making the comments I made in a recent interview," the Ivory Coast international told the club's Web site (www.chelseafc.com) on Friday.

and will be 100 per cent committed and supportive to my manager, my team mates and the club. I will not be discussing my future any further until I meet privately with the club at the end of the season."

Drogba, who scored 33 goals for the club last season, caused a stir in his interview with France Football.

"I want to leave Chelsea. Something is "I am a Chelsea player | broken with the club," the 29-year-old striker told the magazine.

The west London club were quick to dismiss the idea of a possible transfer.

"Didier Drogba signed a new four-year contract last year. As a top professional we are sure Didier is committed to Chelsea

and intends to honour that contract," the club said on its Web site (www. chelseafc.com) on Thursday. The Ivorian was one of the players most affected by Portuguese manager Jose Mourinho's shock departure last month.

MNA/Reuters



Italy's Marco Melandri of Honday Gresini powers his Honda of the qualifying practice session for Sunday's MotoGP Malaysian Motorcycle Grand Prix at Sepang International Circuit in Sepang, Malaysia, on 20 Oct, 2007. Melandri is to start from third in the grid in Sunday's race. —INTERNET

Ghana to face Guinea in African **Nations Cup finals opener**

ACCRA, 20 Oct — Hosts Ghana will play Guinea in the opening match of the 2008 African Nations Cup finals.

Ghana were placed in Group A in Accra with Guinea, Morocco and Namibia in Friday's draw.

"We are delighted to get the opening game, it will make for a compelling start," Guinea coach Robert Nouzaret told reporters.

"It will serve as a major motivation for my players." Holders Egypt's hopes of a record sixth title will be tested by Cameroon, Sudan and Zambia in Group C.

Nigeria and Ivory Coast were paired in Group B along with Benin and Mali, meaning Berti Vogts (Nigeria) will be up against fellow German coach Uli Stielike (Ivory Coast).

Group B was due to be staged in Tamale in the north of Ghana but Confederation of African Football (CAF) general secretary Mustapha Fahmy said the venue was being moved to Sekondi which is nearer the Ghana-Ivorian border.

CAF said they were able to change venues to attract more fans.—MNA/Reuters

Maradona bored with **Argentina's passing game**

Buenos Aires, 20 Oct — Diego Maradona criticized Argentina's style of play on Friday, saying there were too many backward passes.

Argentina have adopted a patient passing game under coach Alfio Basile, centred on playmaker Juan Roman Riquelme, but Maradona said that too often the ball went backwards.

Basile's team have won their first two matches in the 2010 World Cup qualifying competition, 2-0 at home to Chile on Saturday and 2-0 in Venezuela on Tuesday, but the 100 per cent start was not enough for Maradona.

"The team has not left me satisfied," he said in a television interview. "I'm tired and bored of watching them pass the ball backwards."—MNA/Reuters

Duisburg sink Cottbus with two free kicks

BERLIN, 20 Oct — MSV Duisburg claimed a valuable 2-1 win at Energie Cottbus in a battle of two Bundesliga strugglers on Friday.

Bjoern Schlicke fired Duisburg into a seventh-minute lead with a low free kick from more than 30 metres that surprised keeper Tomislav Piplica.

Cottbus equalized in the 66th when Timo Rost turned in a rebound before Ivica Grlic restored Duisburg's lead with another direct free kick 16 minutes from time.

Duisburg remained third from bottom with nine points from 10 games, three ahead of Nuremberg. Cottbus are bottom on four points.—MNA/Reuters

Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia returns the ball to Francesca Schiavone of Italy during their quarter final match at the Zurich Open tennis tournament in Zurich, Switzerland, on 19 Oct, 2007. Kuznetsova retired at 3-6, 3-3. —INTERNET

Nalbandian crushes Nadal as Federer advances

Madrid, 20 Oct — Unseeded inflicted a shock 6-1 6-2 defeat on world number two Rafael Nadal in the Madrid Masters on Friday to earn a semi-final showdown with young Serb Novak Djokovic.

World number one Roger Federer shook off a determined challenge from Spanish wild card Feliciano Lopez to advance 7-6, 6-4.

Holder Federer next meets last year's losing finalist Fernando Gonzalez of Chile or German Nicolas Kiefer.

An out-of-sorts Nadal rgentine David Nalbandian looked to be suffering the after-effects of Thursday night's gruelling victory over Andy Murray as he surrendered his serve on five occasions, lost nine games in a row and made a host of unforced errors.

> It was the Spaniard's heaviest defeat since he lost to Julien Benneteau in Lyon in October 2004 when he also won only three games, and the second time in a row he has fallen in the quarters in Madrid.

> > MNA/Reuters

Czech archaeologists find 7,000-year-old unique statue

PRAGUE, 20 Oct — Czech Archaeologists have uncovered a part of a half-metre high statue of a woman nearly 7,000 years old in the country, which was called "a find of the century", the daily Mlada fronta Dnes (MfD) reported on Thursday.

Experts from Brno's Masaryk University confirmed the unique character of the statue uncovered in Masovice, South Moravia area of the Czech republic, the paper said.

The hollow legs and haunch of the female statue, made of ceramic, originate in 4,800 - 4,700 BC, MfD wrote.

Nothing similar has been uncovered so far, according to the experts.

The statue was made by the people of the prehistorical culture known as "Moravian Painted Ceramic".

"The statue was decorated with yellow paint. It is of an immense

archaeological value," archaeologist Zdenek Cizmar is quoted as saying.

Masaryk University expert Vladimir Podborsky said that the find is very unique.

"No statue of such dimensions and such type has been uncovered either in Europe or in Orient so far. It has a great scientific importance," Podborsky said.

MNA/Xinhua



Sunday, 21 October Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news 8:35 am Music

-Pray

8:40 am Perspectives 8:45 am Music

-Latin love

8:50 am National

-news/Slogan

9:00 am Music

-I rekcon I will

9:05 am International news

9:10am Cultural

images of

Myanmar

-Songs of

Thadingyut

9:20 am Music

-Dr Jones

1:30 pm News/ Slogan

1:40 pm Children's

delight (Story)

-King Thondra and the basket weaver

1:50 pm Songs for children

9:00 pm Weekly news

review

9:10 pm Article **9:20 pm** Music/

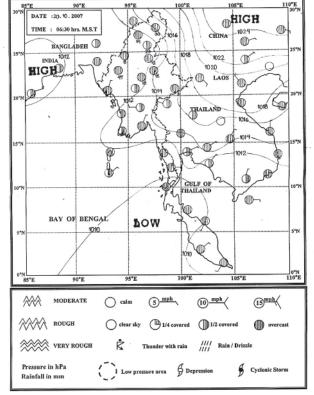
> LIETS -Let's get it on

-I'm still in love

with you

10:00 pm PEL

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Saturday, 20 October, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours **MST:** During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin State and upper Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Shan State and lower Sagaing Division, isolated in Kayah State, Mandalay Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kalewa (1.85) inches, and Mogok (1.34) inches and Mawlaik

(1.33) inches. Maximum temperature on 19-10-2007 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 20-10-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 20-10-2007 was 84%. Total sunshine hours on 19-10-2007 was (6.8) hours approx.

Rainfall on 20-10-2007 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (136.46) inches at Mingaladon, (140.75) inches at Kaba-Aye and (142.72) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from West at (14:30) hours MST on 19-10-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 21-10-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered to fairly widespread in Kachin, Mon, Kayin and Shan States, Taninthayi and upper Sagaing Divisions, isolated in Chin State, Mandalay, Yangon Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 21-10-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-10-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-10-2007: Partly cloudy.

Thailand nabs hunted Canadian paedophile suspect

Bangkok, 20 Oct — Canadian paedophile suspect Christopher Neil, focus of a global hunt that ended in rural Thailand on Friday, will be charged with underage molesting children after being tracked down through boyfriend's phone.

Thai police appealed for more victims to come forward after nabbing Neil at a rented house. Neil is also accused of raping young boys in Vietnam and Cambodia after being unmasked by nifty police computer work and hunted in a unique Internet appeal.

"From pictures on the Internet, there were five to seven children under age 10 who have been abused by him, including one girl," Deputy National Police Chief Wongkot Maneerin told a packed news conference in Bangkok.

Neil, 32, caught in the northeast Thai province of Nakhon Ratchasima, 250 kilometres (150 miles) from Bangkok and well off the normal tourist trail, refused to answer reporters' questions.

Police said Neil, who arrived in handcuffs at national police headquarters, his head covered by a blue T-shirt, had confirmed his identity to investigators but said nothing else.

Neil was no stranger to Thailand, having once taught in a Bangkok language school, but his hiding place was revealed by a trace on the mobile phone of his 25-year-old Thai boyfriend, identified by transvestites in the seedy beach town of Pattaya.

"They went together to different provinces, probably on the run, and the last call made was from Nakhon Ratchasima. So I sent my men there," tourist police chief Chuchart Suwannakom Reuters.

MNA/Reuters

Sunday, 21 October View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး၊နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာ နာယကအဖွဲ့ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင် ချုပ်၊အဘိဓဇမဟာရဌဂုရ အဘိ ဓေအဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am 2. To be healthy exercise 7:30 am

3. Morning news 7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song 7:50 am

5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္ဓာ(၃၈)ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ 8:05 am

6.အကပြိုင်ပွဲ 8:10 am

7.ကုန်စည်တိုးပွား တွံတေးတံတား 8:30 am 8. International news

8:45 am

9. Say it in English 11:00 am

1. Martial song 11:10 am

2. Musical programme

3. Round up of the week's international news

11:40 am

4. Myanmar movie: 'တစ်ကျော့နှစ်ကျော့တေးကိုသီ" (ဝင်းဦး၊ တင်တင်မြ၊ ချိုပြုံး) (ဒါရိုက်တာ–ထွန်းညွှန့်ဦး)

2:00 pm 5. (၂၄) ကြိမ်မြောက်

အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ အားကစား ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်မည့်မြန်မာအားကစား အဖွဲ့များ၏ ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်

2:20 pm 6. Musical Programme 2:35 pm

7. ရင်းငြိမ်ရေထိန်းတခါး 2:45 pm 8. International news 4:00 pm

1. Martial song 4:15 pm 2.Song for uphold national spirit

4:30 pm 3. English for everyday use

4:45 pm

4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ–တတိယနှစ်

(ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု)(ရူပဗေဒ) 5:00 pm

5. Song of national

races 5:30 pm

6. Sing and enjoy 6:00 pm

7. Evening news

6:30 pm 8. Weather report

6:35 pm 9. သီရိဂေဟာ 7:05 pm

10. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ 'နေခြည်ဆမ်းမှ"(အပိုင်း–၁) 8:00 pm

11. News

12. International news 13. Weather report

14. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ် (၁၅) ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ ချစ်စရာ့ပျိုကညာ" (အပိုင်း-၁၄)

16. The next day's programme

9:45 pm News /Slogan

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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 ill-wishers

Who are the winners, and who, the losers from recent violent protests?

\Rightarrow Due to the violent protests,

The people are in a state of panic

Artless persons get into bad company and run into trouble

Trade and commerce hit hard

Vendors and shopkeepers have hard times

Tourism industry in bad shape

☆ Due to the violent protests,

Colonialists' lackey expatriates earn dollars

Touts were provided with funds

Criminals and opportunists are happy with the unrest

National traitors from agitator media gained a lot of dollars