

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

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Kandawgyi sluice gate and construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon)



Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence inspects construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon).— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Khin Zaw, Chairman of

Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and departmental officials inspected Kandawgyi sluice gate in Mandalay and construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon) today. Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party inspected construction

of Kandawgyi sluice gate where they were welcomed by Secretary of MCDC U Maung Pu and Head of Water and Sanitation Department U Tun Kyi and officials.

(See page 7)

Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife enjoy Suvannasama Drama Contest

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct—Suvannasama Drama Contest of the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the fourth day at the convocation hall of University of Veterinary Science in Nay Pyi Taw Yezin at 7 pm today.

Members of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Saw Hnin, Lt-Gen Tin Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Leading Committee for Organizing the 15th

Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Chairman of Work Committee for Organizing the Competitions Minister for Culture

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INSIDE

Leave us alone

The majority of the population of more than 56 million want to lead a peaceful life without instability and violence. They do not want to face the 1988 unrest-like incident again and are very pleased with the present conditions.

PAGES 8 & 9

ANYATHA

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 22 October, 2007

For improvement of socio-economic life of rural people

The government is building more village-to-village roads, village-to-town roads and small and large bridges for better transport in rural regions.

As village-to-village roads and village-to-town roads are being built and the old ones upgraded rural people have been able to travel from one place to another, thereby contributing to development of farming undertakings and marketing of local products.

There emerged model villages which highlight development of rural regions in some regions that have been facilitated with new tarred roads, rural health care centres, village libraries and generators for power supply to the villages.

In the meantime, the extended opening of basic education schools in rural regions has created more learning opportunity for rural population.

As the acquisition of clean water is one of the five rural development tasks efforts are being made the length and breadth of the nation for supply of clean water to rural areas.

The government and well-wishers are making concerted efforts for development of education, health and economic sectors while striving for bringing about better transport and acquisition of clean water. This has contributed a lot to development of rural regions and improvement of socio-economic life of rural people.

Meeting on rail link with Kunming held in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 21 Oct — Singapore on Friday hosted a meeting on the Singapore-Kunming Rail Link project.

A statement issued by the Singapore Transport Ministry said that eight countries, including China, attended the one-day meeting.

The project's working group meets every year to discuss the development and progress of the project.

Members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat, the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, also attended the meeting this year.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Singapore's Transport Minister Raymond Lim described the railway link as an important part of ASEAN's efforts to develop an efficient and integrated transport network.

"It will facilitate the rapid and seamless movement of people and goods among ASEAN countries, and enhance the connectivity of the region," he said.

This rail link is also part of the Trans Asian Railway network, connecting Southeast Asia to the Asian mainland and onward to Europe.—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

Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee meets



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin addresses meeting No 36/2007 of Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee.— MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct — Patron of the Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin delivered an opening address at the coordination meeting of the supervisory committee meeting No 36/2007 at the hall of Nay Pyi Taw Command Headquarters, here, on 19 October.

It was attended by the chairman of the supervisory committee, members of the traffic rules enforcement supervisory committees from Nay Pyi Taw

Pyinmana District and Township, officials and responsible persons of bus lines.

In his address, the commander said that officials are to supervise the task to curb traffic accidents.

Next, the chairman and officials of the supervisory committee reported on tasks for traffic rules enforcement and traffic accidents in a week.

Later, the commander attended to the needs and gave necessary instructions.

MNA

Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport holds meeting

YANGON, 20 Oct — The Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Ensuring Secure and Smooth Transport held its coordination meeting at Yangon Command Headquarters yesterday with an address by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win.

The commander called on the officials to constantly supervise the bus lines and take action against the drivers who break traffic rules.

Next, the officials reported on work being done to the commander.

The commander inspected the two ambulances of Yangon Division Wireless and Traffic Police Force. The ambulances are scheduled to carry out tasks for emergency traffic accidents.

MNA

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

Horizon League Basketball Tournament continues

YANGON, 21 Oct — The Horizon League Basketball Tournament jointly organized by Myanmar Basketball Federation and Horizon Int'l Education Center continued at Kyaikkasan Gymnasium here this afternoon.

Red Star won over Filipino with 80-49 in the men's event. Sky beat Precious with 78-37 CCY passed through O'vickon with 80-66 and Furious team won over Who team with 93-46 in the women's event.

The Horizon League Basketball Tournament will continue on 28 October.

NLM



Players of Sky and Precious teams fighting for a ball at Horizon League Basketball Tournament.— NLM

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

BBC announces plans to cut back programmes, jobs

LONDON, 20 Oct—The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) announced its new plan on Thursday in cutting back programmes and jobs to make up a two billion-pound budget shortfall.

In his six-year scheme called Delivering Creative Future, Mark Thompson, Director General of the BBC, said his plan would deliver “a smaller, but fitter, BBC” in the digital age.

Under his plan, up to

1,800 staff will be made redundant, primarily in news, BBC programme-making and regional centres. Every part of the BBC will be required to make efficiency savings.

The BBC also will sell-off its flagship Television Centre.

The main changes include:

— Closing 2,500 job posts over the next six years.

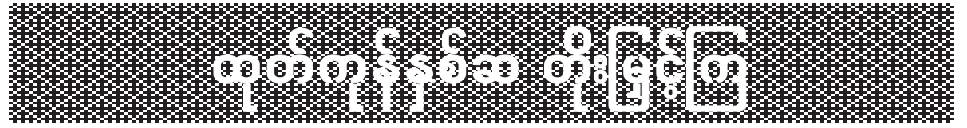
— Creating about 1,000 new jobs, many of which will be filled

internally. In total, the BBC estimates there will be 1,800 redundancies from current staff.

— Making 10 per cent fewer original TV programmes by 2012-13, focusing on fewer, high quality shows.

— Establishing an integrated newsroom, merging TV, radio and online.

— Reducing the size of the BBC’s property portfolio by selling BBC Television Centre by 2012-13.—MNA/Xinhua



Acrobats perform “the Goddess of Mercy of 1,000 hands” during the closing ceremony of the 5th Jiangsu Horticultural Fair in Nantong, east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 19 Oct, 2007.— XINHUA



Two US Marines face Haditha courts-martial

SAN FRANCISCO, 20 Oct — A US battalion commander and an enlisted man will face courts-martial on charges related to the killing of 24 Iraqi

Kevin Grealy (Front), a ceramist from Australia, concentrates on his work 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

civilians in Haditha, Iraq, in 2005, the Marines said on Friday.

The two men are the first to be referred a court-martial in a prosecution that has lost some momentum, with charges dismissed against four men since it began last December.

Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffrey Chessan was one of four officers initially

charged in the killings that sparked international anger. He is charged with dereliction of duty and failing to report accurately and investigate the incident.

The Marines also announced on Friday that Lance Corporal Stephen Tatum would face a court-martial on involuntary manslaughter and other charges, dropping original

charges of murder against him.

Lieutenant-General James Mattis, the commander of US Marine Corps Forces Central Command, referred the charges against the two men after reviewing evidence presented in pretrial evidentiary hearings known as Article 32 proceedings.

MNA/Reuters

At least 30 killed in boat accident in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 20 Oct — At least 30 people were found dead, 30 others declared missing and 125 rescued after a boat capsized in the Kadatua Strait in Bau-bau District of Indonesia’s Southeast Sulawesi Province on

Thursday night, a rescue official said on Friday.

High waves had engulfed *MV Asita 3* boat at 8:18 pm on Thursday when the ill-fated ship was on its way from Tomia, Wakatobi District to Bau-bau, the *Antara*

news agency on Friday quoted a rescue team spokesman Rocky Asikin as saying.

Passenger and cargo overloads were mentioned as the probable cause of the accident.

MNA/Xinhua

Four killed as car plunges into canal in Bangkok suburb

BANGKOK, 20 Oct — A sedan car plunged into a canal in the suburb of Bangkok early Saturday morning and all four people aboard drowned, police said.

Police said the car lost control and plunged into the Rapiat Canal of Klong Luang District, about 30 kilometres north of the central Bangkok.

All the four people inside the car were killed, police said.

A police source was quoted by local news network *The Nation* as saying that the road situation there is not so good since the spot is dark and is a sharp curve.

Another similar accident happened at the scene Thursday night, killing one person and injuring four others. — MNA/Xinhua

Diarrhoea leaves 20 dead in mid-western Nepal

KATHMANDU, 20 Oct — Diarrhoea outbreak has killed 20 people in mid-western Nepal, local leading media group’s website eKantipur reported on Friday. In Dhaulaguwa Village Development Committee (VDC) in remote mid-western Nepali district of Kalikot, some 400 kilometres west of capital Kathmandu, altogether 20 died of diarrhoea over the last week.

Some of the dead had developed symptoms of cholera.

The diarrhoea and other gastro diseases are fast transforming into an epidemic as around 500 people are already suffering from the diseases.—MNA/Xinhua



Fire Department personnel look at the wreckage of a small plane that crashed into the ninth floor of an apartment building in Richmond, British Columbia, on 19 Oct, 2007. — XINHUA



Chinese director Jin Chen, actress Miao Pu, actor Guo Tao (from L1 to L3) and Japanese actor Kiichi Nakai(R1) attend the 20th Tokyo International Film Festival. The 20th Tokyo International Film Festival opens in Tokyo on 20 Oct, 2007.— XINHUA

Commuter woe as strike tests France's Sarkozy

PARIS, 20 Oct — Striking workers shut down most of France's rail network on Thursday and further disruption was expected in a protest over pensions, posing the biggest test yet of President Nicolas Sarkozy's ability to push through reforms.

Unions called the 24-hour strike in an attempt to force concessions from the government, which plans to scrap privileges that allow a minority of public sector workers to retire as early as 50 or 55 years old.

Several unions also voted to carry on striking on Friday causing further disruption to the rail network and to the metro and local trains in the Paris Region.

Four cross channel Eurostar trains would also be cancelled, the SNCF said.

Bernard Thibault, head of the powerful CGT union, said abandoning the so-called "special regime" pension schemes would be the first step towards smaller pensions for all workers.

MNA/Reuters

Scottish-born actress

Deborah Kerr dies aged 86

LONDON, 20 Oct — Scottish-born actress Deborah Kerr, best known for acting alongside Burt Lancaster in the 1953 film "From Here to Eternity", has died aged 86, her agent said on Thursday.

"She died on Tuesday," agent Anne Hutton said. "Her family was with her at the time. She had suffered from Parkinson's disease for some time and had just had her 86th birthday and so was an elderly lady. She just slipped away."

Kerr was nominated for a best actress Oscar six times, including for her

performances in "From Here to Eternity" and "The King and I", in which she appeared with Yul Brynner. She finally won an honorary Academy

Award in the early 1990s "in appreciation for a full career's worth of elegant and beautifully crafted performances".

MNA/Reuters

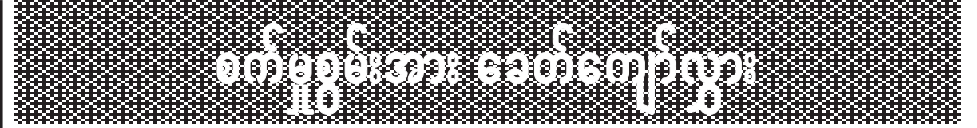
Seven killed in Malaysian ferry accident

KUALA LUMPUR, 20 Oct — The body of the last of the three missing passengers of last Saturday's Malaysian ferry tragedy was found on Friday. The incident totally claimed seven lives and injured five others.

The body of Choong Yoong Kim, 43, from Petaling Jaya, outskirts of Kuala Lumpur, was

identified by family members at the Forensic Unit of the Mersing District Hospital in Mersing, Malaysian southern Johor State, the national news agency *Bernama* reported.

Search and Rescue (SAR) Operations Coordinator Maritime Captain Tan Kok Kwe said a police air unit *Cessna* spotted the body floating at



US Army officer found guilty in military secrets trial

BAGHDAD, 20 Oct — A senior US Army officer in Iraq was found guilty on Friday of possessing thousands of secret military documents that the prosecution in his court martial argued could have benefited a foreign power.

Lieutenant-Colonel

William Steele, 52, was acquitted on the more serious charge of aiding the enemy, which carried a sentence of life imprisonment, for allowing security detainees to use his mobile telephone for unmonitored calls.

He faces up to 10

years' imprisonment on the secret documents charge. He was also found guilty of having an inappropriate relationship with an Iraqi woman interpreter and refusing to obey an order.

Steele is the former commander of Camp Cropper, a US detention centre near Baghdad airport where he oversaw the detention of Saddam Hussein in the days leading up to the former Iraqi leader's execution on 30 December.

Earlier, prosecutor Captain Michael Rizzotti told the court that nearly 12,000 secret documents had also been found in a search of Steele's living quarters in Camp Victory, the main US base in Baghdad.

MNA/Reuters



Two Italian municipal policemen stand in front of the Trevi Fountain in downtown Rome on 19 Oct, 2007.

The water of the Baroque landmark turned into a red pool on Friday after a vandal threw paint into it.— XINHUA

Four killed in Thai southern shootings

BANGKOK, 20 Oct — Four persons were killed during shooting attacks by suspected insurgents in Thai southern province of Yala on Friday afternoon, hours after a bomb wounded seven near a military camp. A couple of fruit farmers were shot dead while driving their pick-up truck to their fruit orchard in Yala's Raman district at about 4:30 pm (0930 GMT), police said.

Some 20 minutes later, a village official were shot while riding his motorcycle in the same District. Earlier, a local resident in

his forties was also under gun attacks and was shot twice in the head and back in a shop in Raman.

All the four were killed on the spot. Witnesses told police that the gunmen

were riding motorcycles while they shot down the four victims and a security camera of the shop has recorded two gunmen's facial features.

MNA/Xinhua

European delegates, Czech mayors oppose US radar base

PRAGUE, 21 Oct — Over 100 delegates from 16 European countries, 86 Czech mayors and activists from international peace organizations opposed the planned US radar on Czech soil at an international conference in Breznice, Central Bohemia of the Czech Republic on Saturday.

The representatives were backed by a video greeting by Mayor of Hiroshima Tadatashi Akiba and Mayor of London Ken Livingston, the Czech news agency *CTK* reported.

Livingston wrote that he strongly supported the campaign against the base.

Czechs should have the right to decide on what would be stationed on their soil, organizers read from his letter.

Akiba sent a video greeting in the similar spirit.

Jan Neoral, Mayor of Trokavec, situated two kilometres from the planned base, said that the radar is provoking arms races.

"Although local referendums were against the radar with a crushing majority, the government still dares to ignore this," Neoral said. — MNA/Xinhua

ECONOMIC NEWS

Homeowners face challenging mortgage market

LONDON, 20 Oct — Mortgage hunters are facing increasingly tough times as the market shrinks and lenders re-assess risk.

The number of products has tumbled 40 per cent in the past Moneyfacts.co.uk, as lenders pull home loans in the wake of the global credit crunch.

Unsurprisingly, the sub-prime market is the biggest casualty. The number of buy-to-let deals in the sector has dropped 72 per cent and residential products are down 5.4 per cent since a peak in July.

Rates on remaining products have been hiked, maximum loan-to-values cut and lending criteria tightened, making it harder for people with poor credit ratings to obtain a mortgage.

But the mainstream residential mortgage market has suffered too: the number of products has fallen 16 per cent. —MNA/Reuters



The dollar and Euro signs perched on top of telephone booths in a park in Singapore. The ailing dollar suffered fresh losses against the yen and traded close to record lows against the euro in Asian trade on Friday as the market fretted about the US economic outlook, dealers said. —INTERNET

Unemployment up in California in September

LOS ANGELES, 20 Oct — About 1.02 million people were out of work in September, up from 996,000 the previous month in California, the most populous state in the United States, according to statistics released on Friday.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment

rate in the state was 5.6 per cent in September, up from 5.5 per cent in August and above the 4.8 per cent level in September 2006, according to the Employment Development Department (EDD). As for the Los Angeles County, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 5.1 per cent in

September, up from 4.9 per cent in August. The September unemployment rate was above the 4.6 per cent rate in the same month last year,

A total of 254,000 people were unemployed in September in Los Angeles County, which has a labour force of 5.1 million. The comparable

estimates for the nation were 4.7 per cent in September, 4.6 per cent in August and 4.6 per cent a year ago.

Between August and September, total nonfarm employment increased by 32,500 jobs to reach more than 4.1 million in Los Angeles County.

MNA/Xinhua

Kitchen staff cut a 560 metre (1,837 feet) long lasagna on tables that surround a hotel in Singapore on 21 Oct, 2007. The record-breaking attempt is also a charity event with net proceeds benefitting the Spastic Children's Association of Singapore. —INTERNET

China's iron, copper ore imports up with freight, demand surge

BEIJING, 20 Oct — China imported 250 million tons of iron ore fines in the first eight months of 2007, a growth of 14.5 per cent year on year, according to latest statistics released by the General Administration of Customs.

The arrivals were valued at 19.61 billion US dollars, up 43.8 per cent. Customs sources said the import price of iron ore fines from January to August averaged 78.2 US dollars per ton, up 25.5 per cent compared with the same period of last year. The price soared to 89.8 US dollars per ton in August, up 36.9 per cent year on year.

Experts held that the hike of iron ore fines

price was mainly triggered by the rocketing freight cost, which by the end of this June had more than doubled the year-earlier level. The mounting cost was due largely to the shortage of international shipping capabilities. In a related development, the nation's imports of copper ore fines in the first eight months this year went up 35.9 per cent year-on-year to 3.192 million tons, which were valued at 6.01 billion US dollars, up 63.2 per cent. The average price of the arrivals in the January-August period rocketed to 1,882 US dollars per ton, up 20.1 per cent year on year.

The nation has scarce copper ore resources and mainly imports copper ore from Chile, Peru, Mongolia and Australia to fill up the gap between supply and demand.

MNA/Xinhua

China -ASEAN trade speeds up

NANNING, 21 Oct — China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) have seen fast growth in bilateral trade with the volume being expected to reach 190 billion US dollars this year.

“The figure is expected to top 200 billion US

dollars in 2008, two years earlier than our expectation,” said Zhang Xiaoqin, secretary general of China-ASEAN Expo Secretariat. China and ASEAN are now each other's fourth largest trading partners. Zhang said, the China-ASEAN trade volume was 160.8 billion US dollars

last year, while in the first eight months this year, the bilateral trade hit 127.95 billion US dollars.

Meanwhile, China and the 10 ASEAN members are speeding up the tariff reduction to facilitate the establishment of China-ASEAN free trade zone.

China's average tariff

on ASEAN countries' goods was slashed from 9.9 per cent to 5.8 per cent now and will continue to drop to 2.4 per cent in 2009, and finally in 2010, which is the scheduled time for the establishment of the free trade zone, 93 per cent of products from ASEAN countries will be tariff-free.

By 2010, China will establish free trade zone with Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, while Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar can enjoy five more years of transition.

MNA/Xinhua

South Korean protesters hold anti-US imported beef banners in front of the National Veterinary Research and Quarantine Service where beef trade talks between the US and South Korea are held in Anyang, west of Seoul, South Korea recently. —INTERNET



Tatmadaw families, wellwishers offer cash and kind to monasteries of four townships, Thanantana Dhammapalaka Hindu Organization

YANGON, 21 Oct — Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers donated provisions to three monasteries in Pabedan and Seikkan Townships and Thanantana Dhammapalaka Hindu Organization in Pabedan Township, at Maha Theindawgyi Pariyatti Monastery in Pabedan Township this afternoon.

First, Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence offered robes and provisions to the Sayadaw. The Vice-Mayor and senior military officers also donated provisions to members of the Sangha.

Three military officers, on behalf of the Tatmadaw families, presented rice, edible oil

and gram to the Sayadaw. Likewise, wellwishers offered provisions to the Sayadaw.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa and senior military officers accepted K 8,271,600 from wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them. Lt-Col Maung Maung Kyaw of Mingaladon Airbase supplicated on the purpose of donations.

Today's donations to three monasteries and Thanantana Dhammapalaka Hindu Organization totalled 110 bags of rice, 353 viss of edible oil, 303 viss of iodized salt, 61 tubes of toothpaste, 1,440 boxes of traditional medicines, 250 viss of gram, 450

packets of chilli powder and K 8,271,600.

A similar ceremony for six monasteries in Botahtaung and Pazundaung townships was held at Mingalayama Pali Tekkatho Monastery in Theinbyu Road in Botahtaung Township this afternoon.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win donated robes and provisions to Myatheindan Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kesara.

The Vice-Mayor and senior military officers presented provisions to the Sayadaws. Three senior military officers, on behalf of the



Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence donates provisions to a Sayadaw.— MNA

Tatmadaw families, donated rice, edible oil and gram to the Sayadaw. Wellwishers also offered alms to the Sayadaw.

The commander, the vice-mayor and senior military officers accepted cash and kind

donations from wellwishers and gave certificates of honour to them. Lt-Col Myo Naing of Yangon Command Headquarters supplicated on the purpose of donations.

Today's donations to six monasteries in

Botahtaung and Pazundaung townships totalled 139 bags of rice, 858 viss of edible oil, 782 viss of iodized salt, 156 tubes of toothpaste, 1,493 boxes of medicines, 450 packets of chilli powder, 156 viss of gram and K 25,151,640.

MNA

Free medical treatment given to eye patients in Ayeyawady Div

YANGON, 21 Oct — The Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, Ayeyawady Division Peace and Development Council and social organizations provided free medical treatment with eye patients in townships from Maubin, Patheingyi and Pyawbwe Districts and held cash presentation ceremony at Toeshwewah Hall in Maubin this morning with addresses by Chairman of Ayeyawady Division PDC Commander of South-West Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and CEC Member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for PBANRDA Col Thein Nyunt.

Present on the occasion were wife of the commander Daw Than Than Nwe of Supervisory Committee for Ayeyawady Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Joint-Secretary U Aung Tin Myint and executives of Ayeyawady Division USDA, Prof Dr U Tin Win and eye specialists, departmental officials at division, district and township levels, members of social organizations, donors and eye patients.

Next, the commander accepted cash K 500,000 donated by the minister and wife and presented certificates of honour to them. Afterwards, the minister accepted K 18.3 million donated by wellwishers.

Similarly, the commander accepted K 18.8 million donated by 12 wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them. Next, the commander accepted K 13.5 million donated by wellwishers.

Afterwards, the commander presented gifts



Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung accepts cash donated by Minister Col Thein Nyunt.—PBANRDA

to Eye Specialists Prof Dr U Tin Win and Prof Dr U Ko Ko Than.

Free medical treatment was given to a total of 5,500 eye patients including 40 monks and 29 nuns in Ayeyawady Division. — MNA

Kayin State USDA holds annual general meeting

YANGON, 21 Oct — Kayin State Union Solidarity and Development Association held its annual general meeting-2007 at Zwegapin Hall in Hpa-an yesterday.

First, CEC member of USDA Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and Patron of Kayin State USDA Chairman of Kayin State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Zaw Min delivered addresses.

The minister, Brig-Gen Zaw Min and departmental officials presented a computer set for the USDA office of seven townships and then they gave awards to the outstanding students.

At the cash donation ceremony, Htoo Trading Co donated K 9 million, State PDC K 1 million, Alawka mining Co, Goldsmith Association and Hoteliers of Hpa-an K 500,000 each, U Myo Naing (Aswetaw Travel Co) K 300,000, Myawady District PDC K 500,000, Myawady Township PDC K 100,000, U Ba Thein of DKBA K 200,000 and DKBA (999) K 200,000 to State USDA through the minister and Secretary of State USDA U Saw Htar Lon.

Afterwards, Executive U Ye Myint of State USDA and secretaries of Maywady, Kawkaik and Hpa-an districts dealt with the annual reports and the meeting ended.

MNA

Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo...

(from page 1)
Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and wife, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint and wife, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw and wife, Deputy Minister for Social

Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department, service personnel of the respective ministries, cultural troupe members of national races

from the states and divisions, families of battalions and units under the Nay Pyi Taw Command and enthusiasts of townships, wards and villages in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana District enjoyed the drama.

Win Naung and party drama troupe representing Mandalay Division took part in the contest.—MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Myint inspects Kandawgyi sluice gate...

(from page 1)
U Tun Kyi reported on arrangements on prevention of flood water flow into the lake and construction of sluice gates.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and party proceeded to the construction site of Ayeyawady Bridge

(Yadanabon) where Deputy Chief Engineer (Road) U Kyu Hin and Project in-Charge Deputy Superintending Engineer U Htay Myint reported on finishing touches, test run of vehicles with heavy load on the bridge.

Lt-Gen Ye Myint and

party inspected the part of the bridge on Sagaing side.

The four-lane bridge is 5,614 feet long and 49 feet wide. It has two six-foot walkways on both sides and it can withstand 60 tons of load. Its clearance is 700 feet wide and 40 feet high.—MNA



Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye enjoy Suvannasama Drama Contest.— MNA

People of Kachin State and Bago, Sagaing and Magway Divisions denounce recent protests

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct — People of Putao in Kachin State, Gyobingauk, Minhla and Shwedaung Townships in Bago Division, and Wuntho, Kyunhla, Kawlin and Mawlaik Townships in Sagaing Division and Chauk in Magway Division who favour stability of the State, prevalence of law and order and community peace walked in procession on 14, 16 and 17 October in the respective regions to denounce the recent demonstrations staged by some monks and NLD

members. As they regarded the recent protests as a threat to peace and stability they walked in procession along the road after seeking permission from the authorities concerned. On 14 October in Putao in Kachin State, over 13,000 people holding the placards that read “We favour stability” “We favour peace”, “We don’t want protests”, “Ward off internal and external destructive elements”, and “We support the National Convention”, and chanting “Our Three

Main National Causes”, and “The seven-step Road Map” must be realized” marched along Putao-Myitkyina Street from Putao Airport to the junction of Airport Ward and finally to Doathtan Ward BEHS Sports Ground in the town. On 16 October in Gyobingauk Township of Bago Division over 23,000 people holding the placards walked in procession in the township. Similarly, on 17 October in Kyunhla Township, Sagaing Division, over 21,000



Local people of Putao denouncing recent protests.—MNA



Local people of Chauk denouncing recent protests.—MNA

people holding the placards walked in procession from Township Sports Ground to Lagunain Street, Bayintnaung Street, Aungzeya Street, Bogyoke Aung San Street and finally to Minyekyawswa Street in the town. On 17 October in Kawlin Town, Sagaing Division, over 20,000 people holding State Flags and the placards marched in procession from Bogyoke Street to Sabai Street and finally to Shweminwun Street in the town.

On 17 October in Minhla Township of Bago Division, over 12,000 holding the placards and chanting slogans in two languages Shan and Myanmar, marched in procession from Township BEHS Sports Ground to Lanmadaw Street, Office Street, Zaycho Street, and finally to Boyon Street in the town. On 17 October in Shwedaung Township of Bago Division, about 25,000 people holding State Flags and placards walked in procession from Township Sports

Ground to Shantan Street, Yangon-Pyay Road, Hospital Street, Thichobin Street, Thankyotan Street and finally to Htarnatan Street in the town. On 18 October in Wuntho Town, Sagaing Division, over 28,000 people holding State Flags and the placards walked in procession in the town. On 18 October in Mawlaik Town, Sagaing Division, over 11,000 people holding State Flags and placards walked in procession in the town. MNA

Leave us alone

Anyatha

I am a 70-year-old man from Anya (Upcountry). I am a sickly man. I have never written an article. However, I write this article because I am overwhelmed by emotional feeling. I have to beg your pardon for my poor work, and allow me to present my feeling.

I wish I could take part in a protest march before my last day, holding a placard reading "Leave us alone". If there is such a protest march, I will join it without fail. Due to the disease I am suffering, I do not think I will be able to walk long, but I think I can do over one mile.

Listening to RFA, BBC and VOA one can notice that their programmes are particularly designed to agitate the people, and that their negative attitude is quite obvious. Apparently, they are looking down on Myanmar people. They can win the trust of the destructive elements only. I would say, the people have realized what their attitude towards Myanmar is.

Many countries suffered or are suffering evil consequences of the acts of Ngapwagyi (world's most notorious country). I wonder how long the people with long noses continue pretending to express sympathy for Myanmar people, and how many Myanmar nationals will dance to their tune.

I still remember the anarchic unrest that took place in my life stretching some 70 years. The majority

of the people experienced it. Who saved the nation when it was under anarchism? Who have worked hard to reach the present stage of the nation? It is unnecessary to look for the footsteps of the elephant because the animal has been found.

I will not mention the conditions of the whole nation, but that of Anya (Upcountry) region.

The townships in the Anya region have enjoyed development at the unprecedented level in the religious and social sectors along with high reasoning power. In Anya region, the majority of the people are rural folks, and the rest live in urban areas. In particular, the entire Anya region including hamlets have enjoyed economic growth. Local farmers can grow paddy as the main crop along with green gram, chicken pea, wheat, onion, garlic, chilli, groundnut and corn on a commercial scale. So, their living standards have become high. It is encouraging that Daze and Dabayin are among the townships that are enjoying fruits of development.

This positive result is owing to restoration of peace and stability. Now, local people can sleep, keeping the doors of their houses open. Robberies and thefts rarely take place.

Smooth transport has helped broaden the horizons of rural folks. They are also doing well in their businesses. So, many houses are roofed with corrugated zinc sheets and the regions often hold social occasions, charities and pagoda festivals. Everywhere in the nation, those who are lazy and always seek opportunity have

hard times.

On average, 60 per cent of the people lead an easy life, 20 per cent of the people, a normal life. The rest are the ones who are not lucky enough or are not hardworking enough in their businesses. Such people may be around you.

Now, markets in our Anya region are teeming with merchants and businessmen from various rural areas and they travel from one place to another and come to the markets in trailer-G trucks, mini-buses and motorcycles of their own instead of bullock carts. Monks and novices in rural areas going round for alms food receive adequate alms food, and that indicates regional economic development. The towns, where a large number of human resources are produced, have a lot of boarding-schools and students.

Various bus-lines ply between our town and Monywa and Mandalay that are wholesale centres. Aung Yadana Bus Line alone has more than 300 buses running between Monywa and Mandalay.

Local people can travel by train to Monywa, Myitkyina or Mandalay in comfort.

I believe that many other towns are also enjoying development.

The Tatmadaw government is working hard. It can be visualized that the nation has a prosperous future. No doubt, hydropower stations,

(See page 9)

I wonder why destructive elements cannot accept such dramatic development the nation has enjoyed in a short time. These fruitful results are unprecedented. Previous governments could not achieve any success in making peace with national race armed groups, but the present government has been able to make peace with 17 national race armed groups along with the group led by U Khun Sa. I will not present the government's victory in the military operations such as Methawaw and Mongyan. Now, peace and stability has been restored well across the nation that is on the correct path toward development thanks to the efforts the Tatmadaw government is making with tenacity.

Leave us...

(from page 8)

irrigation facilities, roads and bridges are, in fact, prudent investments not only for present generation but also for the posterity.

I wonder why destructive elements cannot accept such dramatic development the nation has enjoyed in a short time. These fruitful results are unprecedented. Previous governments could not achieve any success in making peace with national race armed groups, but the present government has been able to make peace with 17 national race armed groups along with the group led by U Khun Sa. I will not present the government's victory in the military operations such as Methawaw and Mongyan. Now, peace and stability has been restored well across the nation that is on the correct path toward development thanks to the efforts the Tatmadaw government is making with tenacity.

I would like to say "Well done", praising the Tatmadaw government. Myanmar people including me can now do their business in peace due to its hard work.

Many Myanmar nationals are earning money abroad, not because they are having hard times, but because of their greed and ambition, thinking highly of foreign countries. I am sure many national people in foreign countries on business who cherish their own race and Sasana would miss their motherland and would be repentant of their adventure.

Myanmar's lovely traditions are more distinct in rural areas. If in doubt, one should visit our region, and will find local people hospitable, helpful and kind to others.

The majority of the population of more than 56 million want to lead a peaceful life without instability and violence. They do not want to face the 1988 unrest-like incident again and are very pleased with the present conditions.

Furthermore, they abhor the acts of a handful of destructive elements who are anxious to instigate protests. In particular, I hate and am disgusted at

I feel bitter at the acts of Ngapwagyi and its associates who are accusing and criticizing the Tatmadaw government that is working hard day in, day out for the development of the nation that is in the process of rising from a near pile of ash. I am taken aback by the acts of national traitors who are earning dollars at the expense of their country.

Listening to RFA, BBC and VOA one can notice that their programmes are particularly designed to agitate the people, and that their negative attitude is quite obvious. Apparently, they are looking down on Myanmar people. They can win the trust of the destructive elements only. I would say, the people have realized what their attitude towards Myanmar is.

the radio stations of those with long noses who are fueling the incidents and agitating the people.

In the programmes, they claim a monk who refused to give his name, or a man from a township, and put leading questions such as "Is there anything else to tell the public?" and "What is your next plan?". The people should not place reliance on and trust in them.

Now, Myanmar people have high reasoning power.

They have gained a lot of knowledge.

They are no longer artless or naive.

I feel bitter at the acts of Ngapwagyi and its associates who are accusing and criticizing the Tatmadaw government that is working hard day in, day out for the development of the nation that is in the process of rising from a near pile of ash. I am taken aback by the acts of national traitors who are earning dollars at the expense of their country.

Who is harming through air waves the interests of the people who prefer a peaceful life in the framework of law.

The majority of the people including rural folks like me earn their living in peace in the framework of law. They wish peace and stability to be restored well in the whole nation.

When the prices of edible oil started to go up, the government provided palm oil for the people in rural areas. In addition, despite shortage of fuel, it managed to provide electricity to them.

It is nothing if the situation of Myanmar is compared with that of other countries. One day, Ngapwagyi and its allies will have to suffer evil consequences for what they are doing now.

I would like all to view the situations of Myanmar as they really are, and compare Myanmar with the western countries that are now faced with a variety of stresses and strains. If so, it will be found that the difficulties Myanmar is facing now are nothing. Soon, everything will come to normalcy in the nation. So, any alien countries should mind their own businesses.

In Myanmar, almost all the people earn their living in an honest way. There will never be anyone who dies of hunger. Thanks to the good foundations, everyone can have a promising future if they work hard honestly. There may be some people who constitute the minority and are having their hard times owing to their lack of interest in their businesses, like some poor people in other countries.

Now, the people who are working in cooperation with the government are holding mass rallies on a grand scale in all the states and divisions across the nation to express their support for the National Convention and the upcoming State constitution.

Internal and external destructive elements should have realized that the people remain united under the leadership of the government, and should have stopped committing subversive acts.

As for the people, we do not want to put any blame on and have no plan to retaliate the elements.

On behalf of the majority of the people, I would say, "Leave us alone".

Translation: MS

Kyemon: 18-10-2007

15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continue



Minister Brig-Gen Ohn Myint and Minister Maj-Gen Tin Htut attend amateur level (second class) women's dancing contest.— MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct — The 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the fourth day yesterday at the designated places in Nay Pyi Taw Yezin yesterday.

Among the audience were Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence

and wife Daw San San Yi, Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, Minister for Cooperatives Maj-Gen Tin Htut, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Deputy Chief Justice U Tun Tun Oo, Deputy Attorney-General U Myint Naing, member of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Aung Myint,

officials of the leading committee, the work committee and sub-committees, and nationals of Kachin, Kayah and Chin states who are currently on study of Nay Pyi Taw.

At University of Agriculture, Assistant Director (Music) (Retd) vocalist Daw Tin Tin Mya and party supervised the classical song contest. Six contestants participated in the amateur level (first class) women's classical song contest and eight students in the basic education level (5-10 age group) boys' classical song contest.

Chairman of the panel of judges U Sein Mar Din and party supervised the dancing contest at the convocation hall of University of Veterinary Science. A total of 17 contestants competed in the amateur level (second class)

women's dancing contest and 12 contestants in the amateur level (second class) (men's) dancing contest.

The song composing

of Agricultural Research Department. Altogether 10 students participated in the higher education level song composing practising.

(10-15 age group) Dobat contest, supervised by leader of the panel of judges U Sein Ba Maw and party.

At a lecture hall of



A contestant from Bago Division participating in basic education level (15-20 age group) boys' piano contest.— MNA



Contestants from Mandalay Division taking part in amateur level (second class) men's orchestra (troupe) contest.— MNA

practising, supervised by Chairman of the panel of judges Chairman of Myanmar Music Asiayon U Maung Maung Latt and party, took place at the hall

At the hall of Forest Research Division, leader of the panel of judges Pianist U Ni Ni and party supervised the piano contest. Five students took part in the basic education level (15-20 age group) boys' piano contest and three students in the basic education level (15-20 age group) girls' piano contest.

Yesin Agriculture University, the xylophone contest, supervised by Chairman of the panel of judges U Ye Nwe, took place. Eight contestants participated in the amateur level (first class) men's xylophone contest and six contestants in the higher education level women's xylophone contest.

Leader of the panel of judges U Sein Satin and party supervised the orchestra contest at the convocation hall of University of Agriculture. Eight troupes participated in the amateur level (second class) men's orchestra troupe contest and four troupes in the higher education level men's orchestra troupe contest.

At the assembly hall of the Agricultural Research Department, seven teams participated in the amateur level (first class) Dobat contest and seven in the basic education level

MNA

Work Committee for Organizing Performing Arts Competitions holds coord meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Oct — The Work Committee for Organizing the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held a coordination meeting at the hall of Forest Research Division in Nay Pyi Taw Yezin this evening.

Secretary of the Work Committee Director-General U Yan Naing Oo of Fine Arts Department gave an opening address, and those present reported on their respective sectors.

After discussing the tasks of the work committee and subcommittees, the Secretary gave concluding remarks. — MNA



A contestant from Ayeyawady Division practising for song composing contest in higher education level.— MNA

Myanmar's efforts to eradicate narcotic drugs

Maung Maung Kyaw

The Border Areas Development Project is a prudent one. With the year-by-year progress, the living conditions of border areas have been improved more than expected during the time of the Tatmadaw government. As a result, poppy cultivation and production, an evil legacy of the colonialists, has taken a nosedive. The drug-elimination drive

date, 20 similar ceremonies have been held. In 1988, ceremony to destroy seized narcotic drugs was not held in states and divisions, and now 42 ceremonies have been organized to destroy narcotic drugs in states and divisions.

After the 20th ceremony to destroy seized narcotic drugs held in Yangon



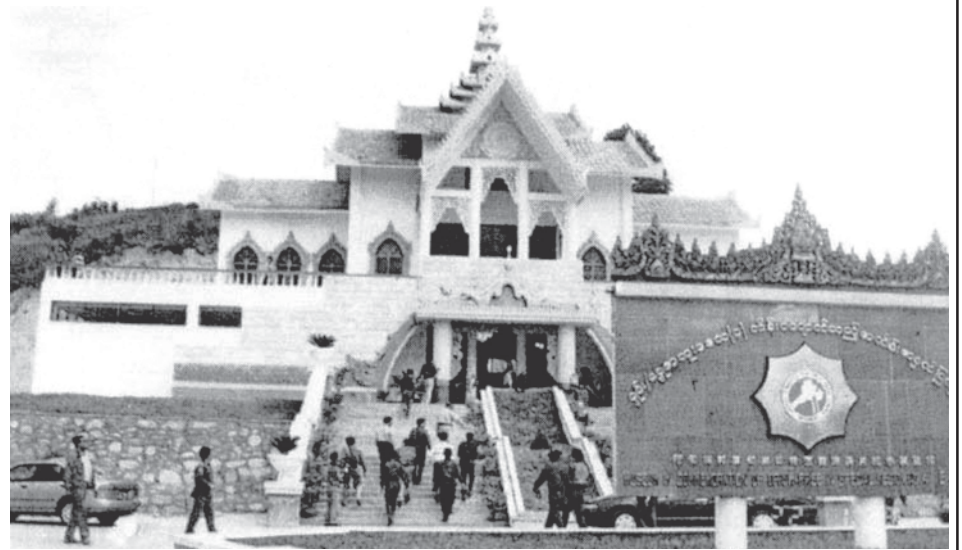
Seized narcotic drugs are destroyed in Yangon.

reflects the success achieved due to the earnest efforts the government is making with the concept that it does not accept any evil legacy and it receives every good legacy.

Poppy sown acreage has dropped sharply to 3923 from 61,562 in 1988, accounting for a decrease of 57,639 or 94 per cent. In 1988, 211.35 acres of poppy plantations were destroyed, and now 168,888.56 acres of poppy plantations have been destroyed. So, 168,677.21 more acres of poppy plantations can be destroyed. In 1988, no poppy seeds were entrusted to the authorities. Now, 118,530 pyis (small baskets) have been destroyed. In 1988, Yangon Division did not see any ceremony to destroy seized narcotic drugs, and from that time to



The sixth ceremony to destroy seized narcotic drugs of Shan State (North) is in progress.



The Drug Elimination Museum in Shan State (East).

last year, Shan State (South) held a similar ceremony in Leikha, and Shan State (East), in Kengtung. From 2002 to date, Shan State (North) has destroyed narcotic drugs six times.

Regarding the cultivation of poppy-substitute crops, Myanmar had not witnessed cultivation of seasonal crops till 1988, and now sown acreage of seasonal crops has reached 1,331,668. Perennial crops had not been grown till 1988, and now sown acreage of

perennial crops has hit 329,969. The number of rehabilitation centres has increased to three, up from two in 1988. There was no drug elimination museum in 1988. Now, three drug elimination museums have been established.

Myanmar made strenuous efforts in various sectors to eradicate poppy cultivation. According to the reports of the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Myanmar's poppy cultivation fell drastically during the period of ten years from 1997 to 2006 as follows:

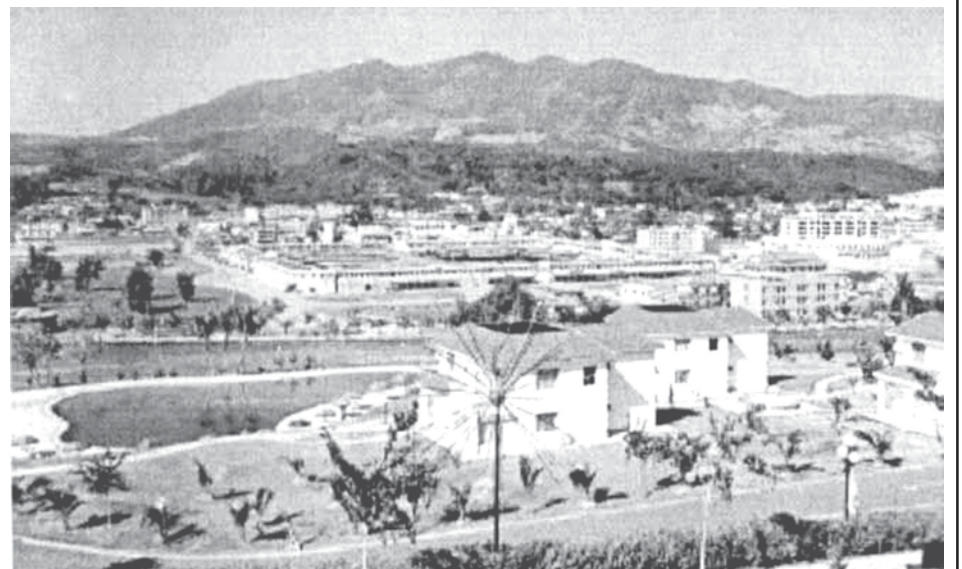
- In 1977, Myanmar grew 155,150 hectares of poppy and produced 1676 tons of poppy.
- In 2006, it grew 21,500 hectares of poppy and produced only 315 tons of poppy.

Such a remarkable decrease in poppy cultivation in Myanmar is a result of effective strategies and tactics that are being carried out as part of the drive for elimination of drugs in the nation. Surely, poppy cultivation will be eliminated soon in the Union of Myanmar.

Translation: MS
Kyemon: 17-10-2007



A poppy-substitute crop plantation in Mongla, Shan State (East).



Mongla in Shan State (East) is now enjoying fruitful results of development.

ADVERTISEMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GATI ZIPP VOY NO (80908)

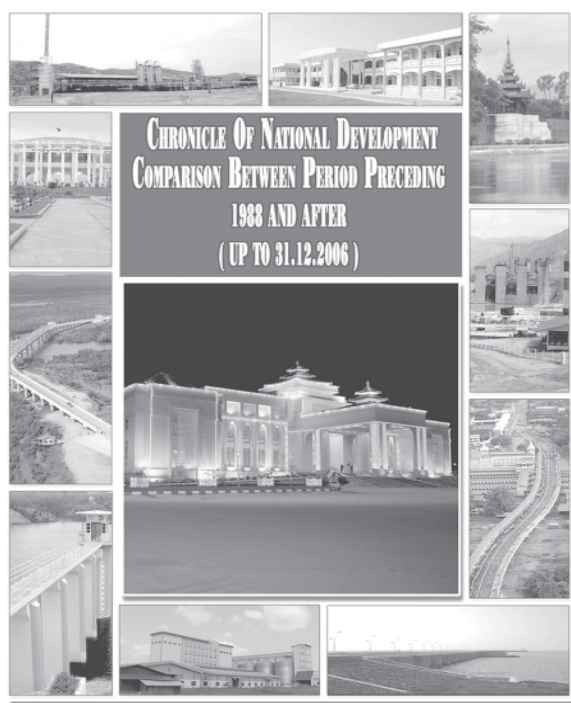
Consignees of cargo carried on MV GATI ZIPP VOY NO (80908) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.10.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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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**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
HOLIDAY NOTICE**

As the wharves, warehouses and chellan offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 26th October 2007, being the public Holiday. Goods will be received, shipped or delivered on payment of Holiday Fees.

Director De Palma disturbed over Iraq film edit

NEW YORK, 20 Oct — Veteran Hollywood director Brian De Palma has lashed out at what he calls the censorship of his new film about Iraq and the chilling effect of corporate America on the war. De Palma's film, "Redacted," is based on the true story of a group of US soldiers who raped and killed a 14-year-old Iraqi girl and murdered members of her family.

It has stunned audiences for its shocking images and rattled American conservative commentators before its US opening next month.

But De Palma says he is upset that the documentary-style drama—its name derived from his view that news coverage of the war has been incomplete — has been censored.

The film's distributor, Magnolia Pictures, ordered the faces of dead Iraqis shown in a montage of photographs at the end of the film be blacked out.

"I find it remarkable. 'Redacted' got redacted. I mean, how ironic," De Palma, who made his name

directing violent films like "Scarface" and "The Untouchables," said in an interview. "I fought every way I could in order to stop those photographs from being redacted and I still lost."

De Palma has loudly argued the issue in public, including sparring with Eamonn Bowles, the president of Magnolia, during a recent forum at the New York Film Festival. — MNA/Reuters

Customers queue outside a Northern Rock branch in Bromley. Leading shares closed sharply lower, as the 20 year anniversary of Black Monday delivered a commemorative slump both in London and on Wall Street, while Northern Rock dropped after news of its chairman's resignation. — INTERNET



Putin calls for direct dialogue with Iran

MOSCOW, 20 Oct — Russian President Vladimir Putin Thursday called for direct dialogue with Iran, saying it is better than using threats in settling the country's nuclear issue.

"A direct dialogue is always more productive,

it is a shorter way to success than the policy of threats, sanctions and pressure," Putin said at an annual Q&A programme broadcasted live on the country's main TV channels and radio.

Putin, who paid a visit

to Teheran early this week, spoke highly of the relations between Russia and Iran.

"We have built and will continue to build good neighbourly relations with this country.

We are very important

partners regarding cooperation in the recovery of oil, natural gas and in the atomic power industry sphere.

This necessitated the discussion of these problems at a very high level," he said.

Iranian media reported that Putin has brought forward a nuclear proposal to Iran's supreme leader during his visit to Teheran, but further details were still not available.

The United States accused Iran of developing an atomic programme under the civilian cover and is now pushing the UN Security Council to adopt a third sanction resolution against Teheran. Iranian officials have repeatedly denied the accusations and said they just wanted to generate electricity. — MNA/Xinhua

Malaysia proposes 100-acre site for foreign workers' settlement

KUALA LUMPUR, 20 Oct — A 100-acre site has been earmarked in the Iskandar Development Region (IDR), Malaysian southern economic corridor, to accommodate the tens of thousands of foreign workers who are expected to be involved in the construction of infrastructure in the special economic region,

local media reported on Friday.

Malaysian southern Johor State Chief Minister Auk Abdul Ghani Othman said the proposed settlement, which would accommodate unskilled foreign workers, would be equipped with various facilities such as shops and transportation to enable them to shuttle to their work place, the national news agency Bernama reported.

"We plan to locate them (foreign workers) in a

settlement equipped with various facilities for their convenience and transportation to enable them to travel to their work place easily. We will ensure that they have all the facilities such as restaurants, shops and others," said Abdul Ghani, who is also the joint-chairman of the Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA).

MNA/Xinhua

Death toll from Egypt ferry accident rises to 13

CAIRO, 20 Oct — Police divers have pulled the bodies of five people, including three children, from the Nile River, bringing the death toll from a holiday ferry accident to 13, the state Middle East News Agency (MENA) said on Wednesday.

Five other people were slightly injured in the accident on Sunday in the province of Minya, 200 kilometres (120 miles) south of Cairo, that occurred over the Eid el-Fitr holiday that marks the end of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan.

MENA had quoted the governor of Minya as saying that a large number of passengers had been trying to get on the ferry when a ramp linking it to the river bank collapsed. Security officials said one of the boat's railings also collapsed, sending more people into the water. — MNA/Reuters

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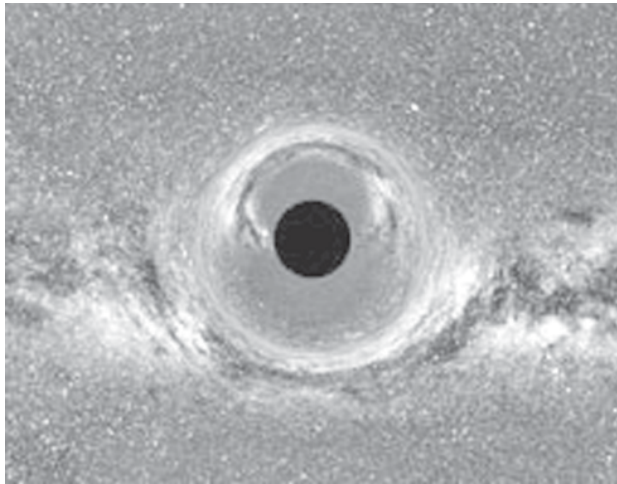
Biggest “small” black hole discovered

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct — Discovery of the largest example of a “small” black hole — one formed from the collapse of a single massive star at the end of its lifetime — has led scientists to reevaluate how black holes come into being, according to a report in the latest issue of *Nature*.

Since black holes can not be seen — because they trap all matter and light that enters them — they are detected by the gravitational effects they have on nearby stars or other matter that is near them. This team made their unusually precise calculations by measuring the motion of a star as it orbited around the black hole, known as M33 X-7. The black hole completes one orbit every 3.45 days around its massive companion star.

The “small” black hole, 15.65 times the mass of the sun, required the surprised astronomers to reevaluate a long-standing theory.

“The theory we



Discovery of the largest example of a “small” black hole — one formed from the collapse of a single massive star at the end of its lifetime — has led scientists to reevaluate how black holes come into being, according to a report in the latest issue of Nature. — INTERNET

operated with for the last decade was that single-star black holes are formed from the remnants of massive stars — the

more massive the star, the more massive the remnant. But, all of the stellar mass black holes were expected to be in the range of 10

times the mass of the sun or less, since only the core regions of the star would collapse,” said Charles Bailyn, Professor of Astronomy and Physics at Yale, and a member of the research team.

In this particular case, “finding a black hole with such unusual characteristic points out that our understanding of the evolution of massive stars and the formation of black holes must be incomplete”, said Bailyn.

This black hole is also the most distant stellar black hole ever observed and is located outside our galaxy—in a dwarf galaxy, Messier 33, that orbits Andromeda.

MNA/Xinhua

UN climate chief looks for Bali breakthrough

WASHINGTON, 20 Oct — Global warming talks in Bali in December need to make a breakthrough or international efforts to limit greenhouse gases could be in “deep trouble”, the top UN climate official said on Friday.

“If we’re not on the eve of a breakthrough in Bali, we can spend the next six years waiting for the next report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, public interest will slip away and we will be in deep trouble,” said Yvo de Boer, who heads the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

De Boer said the UN Bali gathering needed to

do four things to start negotiations for a way to curb climate-warming gases after the current accord, the Kyoto Protocol, expires in 2012.

The meeting must agree to launch negotiations, determine the areas of discussion, decide on a deadline and create a mechanism for the negotiations, de Boer said.

“(The Bali meeting) doesn’t have to deliver the perfect climate change regime, it doesn’t have to answer all the questions, it doesn’t have to solve all the problems, it just has to get the process going,” de Boer said at a World Bank forum.

MNA/Reuters



Models present creations by fashion label Fendi at sunset on the Great Wall in Beijing, capital of China, on 19 Oct, 2007. A total of 88 models displayed creations by designers Karl Lagerfeld and Silvia Venturini Fendi on Friday in Beijing. — XINHUA

Indonesians pressured to leave rumbling volcano

NGANCAR (Indonesia), 20, Oct — Indonesian authorities urged residents not to return to their homes near a volcano in eastern Java after experts warned on Friday that Mount Kelud was still liable to erupt.

Many locals have dug in and are trying to stay put despite an order to evacuate a 10-kilometre (six-mile) zone around the 1,731-metre (5,712-foot) volcano, one of

Indonesia’s deadliest.

The order to evacuate more than 100,000 people was made after an alert on the volcano, 675 kilometres (420 miles) east of the capital Jakarta but only 90 kilometres southwest of Indonesia’s second-largest city of Surabaya, was raised to maximum late on Tuesday. The head of Indonesia’s Centre for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation, who is

monitoring Kelud from a post 7.5 kilometres away, said that activity at the volcano had increased mid-afternoon before calming again.

“There were constant tremors, which could not be counted at 3 pm (0800 GMT), so I urged everyone to leave the post,” said Surono, who uses one name like many Indonesians and is the country’s top volcano expert. — MNA/Reuters

Malaysian first astronaut to be commissioned as cosmonaut

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 Oct — Malaysia’s first astronaut Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor, who is scheduled to return to earth on Sunday, will be commissioned as a cosmonaut along with another astronaut candidate Faiz Khaleed, Science, Technology and Innovations Minister Auk Seri Dr Jamaludin Jarjis was quoted by local media as saying on Friday.

The commissioning

ceremony would take place in Russia two weeks after Sheikh Muszaphar’s return as he has to be quarantined for one week after touchdown on Earth, said Jamaludin at an Aidilfitri open house hosted by him in Rompin, central state of Pahang, on Thursday night.

Jamaludin hoped that with the recognition Sheikh Muszaphar’s credibility as an astronaut would no longer be questioned as certain

quarters regarded him as merely a space flight tourist, Malaysian national news agency *Bernama* reported.

The ministry would also collaborate with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of the United States on astronaut and space science training to avoid such issues from arising (status of Malaysia going to space), he said.

MNA/Xinhua



In this photo provided by the San Diego Zoo, San Diego Zoo nutritionist Dr Michael Schlegel measure the continued growth of the zoo’s 11-week-old giant panda cub during her weekly veterinary exam on 17 Oct, 2007, in San Diego. The cub measured 1.8 feet long and weighed 8.6 pounds. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Barclays Premier League Table

21 October, 2007

		P	GD	PTS
1	Arsenal	9	15	25
2	Man Utd	10	12	23
3	Man City	10	8	22
4	Liverpool	9	11	19
5	Portsmouth	10	7	18
6	Blackburn	9	5	18
7	Chelsea	10	2	18
8	Newcastle	8	3	14
9	Aston Villa	9	1	14
10	West Ham	9	3	13
11	Everton	10	0	13
12	Reading	10	-10	10
13	Fulham	10	-4	8
14	Birmingham	10	-5	8
15	Wigan	10	-6	8
16	Sunderland	10	-8	8
17	Middlesbrough	10	-8	8
18	Tottenham	9	-2	7
19	Derby	10	-17	6
20	Bolton	10	-7	5

Internet



Middlesbrough's George Boateng (R) challenges Chelsea's Ricardo Carvalho during their English Premier League soccer match at the Riverside in Middlesbrough, northern England, on 20 Oct, 2007.—INTERNET

Leaders Real, Barca stumble to first defeats

MADRID, 21 Oct — Leaders Real Madrid and rivals Barcelona suffered their first Primera Liga defeats this season on Saturday at Espanyol and Villarreal respectively.

Real were no match for team-of-the-moment Espanyol as they lost 2-1. Albert Riera and Raul Tamudo, who led Spain to a 3-1 victory against Denmark in their Euro 2008 qualifier last weekend, scored the goals at the beginning of each half.

Sergio Ramos pulled one back for Real at the end.

The champions stay top with 19 points while Espanyol, who have won four games on the trot, secured fifth place on 16.

Villarreal were impressive as they tore apart visitors Barcelona 3-1, with two penalties from Marcos Senna, to climb to second place with 18 points. Valencia cruised to a 4-2 win at Deportivo Coruna with two headers from striker Fernando Morientes and are in third place, also on 18 points. Barca slipped to fourth with 17.

Sevilla returned to winning ways after four consecutive league defeats with a comfortable 2-0 win at bottom club Levante, to go 10th with nine points. Brazilian striker Luis Fabiano scored both goals in the first 14 minutes to spoil Italian coach Giovanni De Biasi's debut on the bench for the home side.—MNA/Reuters

Liverpool snatch late victory in Mersey derby

LONDON, 21 Oct — Liverpool scored in stoppage time to beat Everton 2-1 in a dramatic Merseyside derby on Saturday at Goodison Park as the hosts ended the match with nine men.

Sami Hyypia's own goal after 38 minutes gave Everton the lead in the 206th meeting between the city rivals but fortune favoured Liverpool after the break as two Dirk Kuyt penalties got their title

challenge back on track.

Fourth-placed Liverpool looked set for more misery at their neighbours after last season's 3-0 hammering when Hyypia crashed an attempted clearance past his keeper

Pepe Reina. They levelled after 54 minutes when Everton defender Tony Hibbert tangled with Steven Gerrard in the box to concede a penalty and receive a red card from referee Mark Clattenburg.

Kuyt scored from the spot to make it 1-1 and the Dutchman kept his nerve to convert another penalty in stoppage time after Phil Neville had been sent off for a flying save with his hand to deny Brazilian substitute Lucas.

Everton should have had a penalty of their own in a breathless finish when Jamie Carragher appeared to wrestle Joleon Lescott down in the area.

Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez, under pressure after some poor performances in the league and in Europe, withdrew a grim-faced Gerrard in the second half to boos from the away end.

MNA/Reuters



Everton's Phil Neville (L) challenges Liverpool's Steven Gerrard (R) for the ball during their English Premier League soccer match in Liverpool, northern England, on 20 Oct, 2007.—INTERNET



West Ham United's Nolberto Solano, left, celebrates his goal as Sunderland's Craig Gordon holds his head during their English Premier League soccer match at the Upton Park stadium, London, on 21 Oct, 2007.—INTERNET

Hamburg overpower Stuttgart with Olic hat trick

BERLIN, 21 Oct — Croatian striker Ivica Olic scored a first-half hat-trick to lead Hamburg SV to a 4-1 win at home to struggling Bundesliga champions VfB Stuttgart on Saturday. Olic struck after seven, 23 and 34 minutes as Stuttgart's miserable

start to their title defence hit a new low.

Franck Ribery scored one and set up the other as leaders Bayern Munich came from behind to win 2-1 at VfL Bochum.

With 10 games played Bayern, the only unbeaten side, lead the table with

26 points followed by Werder and Hamburg on 20.

Karlsruhe, who have 18 points, can reclaim second spot if they win at home to Arminia Bielefeld on Sunday.

Hamburg scythed through the Stuttgart defence time and again, despite the absence of injured captain Rafael van der Vaart, to leave the champions 13th with 10 points. Mohamed Zidan set up the opener when he slid through a pass for Olic to score with a perfect first-time finish across the keeper and in at the far post.

The second came as the Stuttgart defence went to sleep again. Guy Demel marched forward on the right and shot across the face of the area for Olic to score easily.

MNA/Reuters

Spartak beat FK Moscow 3-1 to stay top in Russia

MOSCOW, 21 Oct — Spartak scored two second-half goals to beat city rivals FK Moscow 3-1 in a heated Russian Premier League derby and remain top of the table on Saturday. Spartak's Lithuanian defender Ignas Dedura opened the scoring in the 14th minute but was sent off along with FK Moscow's Argentine midfielder Pablo Barrientos just four minutes later after the two squared off in the middle of the field.

Argentine striker Maxi Lopez equalized in the 21st minute, notching his third goal in his sixth game for FK Moscow since joining them from Barce-

lona two months ago.

Defender Jeder headed Spartak in front again just after the hour with his first of the season and fellow Brazilian Welliton added a third in the final minute to seal the win.—MNA/Reuters



Arsenal's Aleksandr Hleb, right, vies for the ball with Bolton Wanderers' Joey O'Brien during their English Premier League soccer match at the Emirates stadium, London, on 20 Oct, 2007.—INTERNET

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

1	A		2	S		3	F		4	C		5	B		6	U
7	B	U	T	T	E	R		8	M	O	M	E	N	T		
	A	A		W		9	O			M		L		T		
10	N	E	G	L	E	C	T		11	M	O	O	S	E		
	D		G		R		H			E		W		R		
12	O	P	E	N		13	M	E	A	N	T					
	N		R		14	W		R		T		15	C		16	R
			17	F	R	O	W	N		18	C	O	R	E		
19	A		20	B		I		I		21	A		M		L	
22	B	L	E	A	T		23	S	A	R	D	I	N	E		
	U		L		I		E		S		C		A			
24	S	P	L	I	N	T		25	M	O	R	A	S	S		
	E		Y		G				N		L		E			

Russia plans centre to track Western rights abuses

Moscow, 21 Oct — Russia plans to turn the tables on Western critics of its human rights record by setting up an organization to monitor rights abuses in Europe and the United States, the man behind the project said on Friday.

Anatoly Kucherena, a prominent lawyer and presidential appointee to an official council on human rights and civil society, said the organization would have its headquarters either in Brussels or Germany.

“In recent years there has been a lot of criticism linked to human rights violations in Russia. But believe me, these things happen in other countries too,” Kucherena told reporters.

“Imagine if Russia, or Russian human rights activists, were to prepare a

corresponding report about, for example, the state of human rights in France? What would happen?”

Kucherena has made a name for himself championing ordinary citizens against incompetent or corrupt bureaucrats. He is often shown on state-controlled television — a sign he has a degree of Kremlin approval.

He did not say how the organization would be funded.

Western governments and rights groups say Russia under President Vladimir Putin has squeezed democracy, gagged freedom of speech and used brutal methods to suppress Islamist insurgencies in its North Caucasus Region.

MNA/Reuters

Sandhi Brother's Trading Co., Ltd. ၏ ထုတ်ကုန်၊ သွင်းကုန် ကဒ်ပြားအမှတ် (၁၂၆၅) သည် ပျောက်ဆုံးသွားပါသဖြင့် တွေ့ရှိပါက အောက်ဖော်ပြပါလိပ်စာသို့ပေးပို့အကြောင်းကြားပေးပါရန် မေတ္တာရပ်ခံအပ်ပါသည်။
ပေးပို့အကြောင်းကြားသူအား ထိုက်တန်စွာ ကျေးဇူးဆပ်ပါမည်။
အမှတ် (၂၃၈/၂၄၀) ကုန်ဆေးတန်းလမ်း၊ ပန်းဘဲတန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့။

Iranian minister says US in no position to attack Iran

HERAT (Afghanistan), 21 Oct — The United States is in no position to attack Iran because it is bogged down in the conflict in Iraq, Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said on Saturday.

Mottaki was talking at the sprawling Iranian consulate in the western Afghan city of Herat, on the border with Iran, where a regional trade conference was taking place.

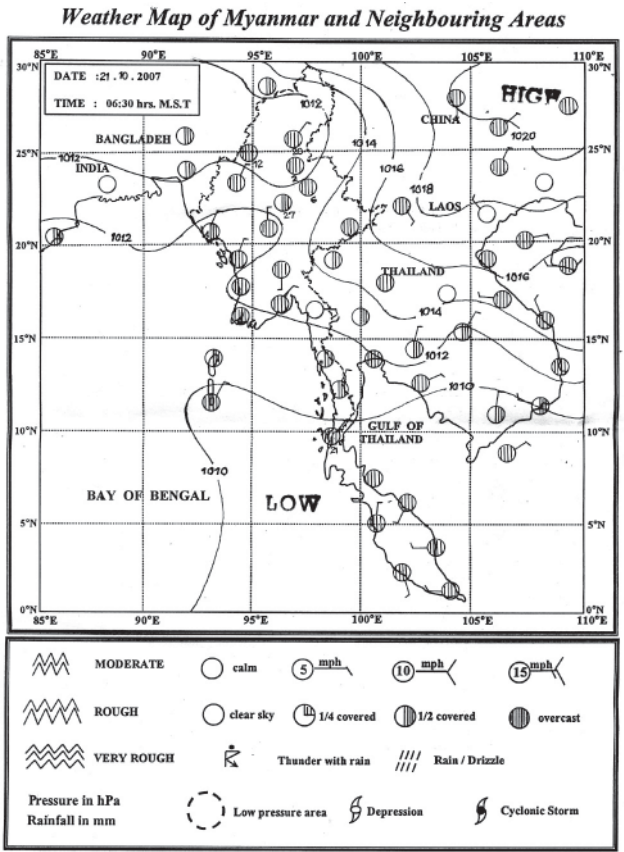
“Americans have never been in such a grave situation and this is because of their own deeds,” he said with a smile.

US officials say Iran supports the Shiite militias in Iraq and may be involved in sending arms to the resurgent Taliban in Afghanistan.

Washington also accuses Teheran of building nuclear weapons and has not ruled out an attack against it.

Iran has denied the accusations and Afghanistan, where US forces make up the majority of foreign troops, says it has no evidence that Teheran is involved in arming the Taliban.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Sunday, 21 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 and Chin States, lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, scattered in Rakhine and Kayah States, isolated in Bago, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Divisions with isolated heavyfall in Mandalay Division and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.31) inch, Kyaukse (4.01) inches, Mogok (2.13) inches, Kanbalu (1.41) inches, Myitkyina (1.34) inches, Mandalay (1.07) inches and Pyinmana (1.03) inches.

Maximum temperature on 20-10-2007 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 21-10-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 21-10-2007 was 82%. Total sunshine hours on 20-10-2007 was (5.7) hours approx.

Rainfall on 21-10-2007 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 (6) mph from West at (17:50) hours MST on 20-10-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 22-10-2007: Rain or thundershowers will fairly widespread in Kachin and Shan States, Upper Sagaing Division and scattered in Chin and Rakhine States, Mandalay, Magway and lower Sagaing Divisions and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of rain in the upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 22-10-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 22-10-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-10-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).



Monday, 22 October Tune in today

- 8:30 am** Brief news
- 8:35 am** Music
-Miss you finally
- 8:40 am** Perspectives
- 8:45 am** Music
-Why
- 8:50 am** National news/
Slogan
- 9:00 am** Music
-Book of love
- 9:05 am** International news
- 9:10 am** Music
-You are my baby
- 1:30 pm** News/ Slogan
- 1:40 pm** Lunch time music
-Music
-Baby what about you
- 9:00 pm** Spotlight on the stars
-Don Williams
- 9:10 pm** Article
- 9:20 pm** Drug / women affairs
- 9:35 pm** Golden land melody/vocal gems
-Talk about us
-Love is love
- 9:45 pm** News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm** PEL



Monday, 22 October View on today

- 7:00 am**
 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ 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. Song of national races
- 8:05 am**
 6. Cute little dancers
- 8:15 am**
 7. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

- 8:30 am**
 8. International ews
- 8:45 am**
 9. Grammar made easy
- 2:50 am**
 1. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်(၂၃)ကြိမ်မြောက် တပ်မတော်ကာကွယ်ရေးဦးစီးချုပ်ဖလားအသက်(၂၁)နှစ် နှင့်အောက်တပ်မတော်(ကြည်း၊ ရေ၊ လေ)ဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲတိုက် ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ် (ဗိုလ်လှပွဲ)
- 4:45 am**
 2. Song to uphold National Spirit
- 5:30 am**
 3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-ပထမအပိုင်း (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)
- 5:10 am**
 4. Dance variety
- 5:20 pm**
 5. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 5:35 pm**
 6. Songs and dance of national races
- 5:45 pm**
 7. Musical programme (The radio Myanmar modern music troupe)

- 6:00 pm**
 8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm**
 9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm**
 10. အလှူရှာမယ်၊ လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်
- 6:50 pm**
 11. (၂၄)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ အားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်မည့် မြန်မာအားကစားအဖွဲ့များ၏ ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်မှုများ (ဂျူဒို)
- 7:05 pm**
 12. “ဆုံစည်းခွင့်” (မင်းထက်ကျော်စင်၊ ဖိုးသောကြာ၊ မြတ်ကောသီအောင်၊ ချစ်သူဝေ) ဒါရိုက်တာ-သိန်းဟန်(ဖီးနစ်)
- 7:10 pm**
 13. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်သောရွှေနေပြည်” (အပိုင်း-၂၂)
- 8:00 pm**
 14. News
- 8:15 pm**
 15. International news
- 8:30 pm**
 16. Weather report
- 8:45 pm**
 17. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်(၁၅)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီး ပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:55 pm**
 18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ပြီးလှည့်ပါချစ်သူရယ်” (အပိုင်း-၁၆)
- 9:00 pm**
 19. The next day's programme

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People's Desire

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

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

- ★ **Due to violence and unrest**
 Peace-loving people have to live in state of alarm
 Learning of students disrupted
 Commodity flow stagnant
 Vendors have hard times
 Passenger transport services delayed
- ★ **Due to violence and unrest**
 Only the notorious neo-colonialists benefited
 Instigators covertly earning dollars
 Expatriates and ax-handles living in luxury
 Followers of colonialists earning handsome dollar rewards

- ★ **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**