

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

Prime Minister General Thein Sein participates in discussions in 11th ASEAN+3 Summit, 11th ASEAN+China Summit

ASEAN seeks means to narrow development gap among members

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Nov — Prime Minister General Thein Sein attended the discussions at the 11th ASEAN+3 Summit and the 11th ASEAN+China Summit at Acacia Ballroom of Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore on 20 November.

Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong welcomed Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries, the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea and the ASEAN Secretary-General.

Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries, Premier Mr Wen Jiabao of the People's



Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries, PRC Premier Mr Wen Jiabao, Japanese Prime Minister Mr Yasuo Fukuda and Korean President Mr Roh Moo Hyun pose for documentary photo. — MNA

The heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries discussed progress of cooperation in ASEAN+3, the second declaration on East Asian cooperation and work plan, setting up of ASEAN+3 funds, narrowing the development gap among ASEAN countries, implementation for suggestions of the East Asian Study Group, extension of trade and investment, extended cooperation in financial sector, designation of East Asian Free Trade Area, cooperation in development sectors, storage of fuel, efficient use of natural gas and substitute-fuel, environmental conservation and the problem of climate change.

Republic of China, Japanese Prime Minister Mr Yasuo Fukuda and President Mr Roh Moo Hyun of the Republic of Korea posed for documentary photo.

The summit was presided over by the Singaporean Prime Minister.

The Chinese Premier, the Japanese Prime Minister and the Korean President explained implementation and progress of ASEAN+3 programme, assistance provided for ASEAN integration, establishment of free trade ar-

reas together with ASEAN, the vital role of ASEAN, establishment of East Asian Community, cooperation in regional peace and stability, combating international terrorism, prevention against infectious diseases, energy security, climate change and environmental conservation.

The heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries discussed progress of cooperation in ASEAN+3, the second declaration on East Asian cooperation and work plan, setting up of (See page 10)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 25 November, 2007

Adoption of ASEAN Charter fosters unity and cooperation of members

The 13th ASEAN Summit of Heads of State/Government of ASEAN member countries took place in Singapore on 20 November and was attended by Heads of State/Government of member countries—Myanmar, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

At the summit, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and Heads of State/Government of ASEAN members signed the ASEAN Charter, the Declaration on Implementation of ASEAN Economic Community, the ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Sustainability and the ASEAN Declaration on Climate Change.

Adopting the ASEAN Charter by member countries means setting up one of the milestones in 40 years. ASEAN has been organized extensively encompassing all nations in South-East Asia step by step, overcoming a variety of difficulties. ASEAN is a community that has common vision and characteristics and can share joys and sorrows through mutual respects.

ASEAN countries share common concern in a region with peace, stability and long-term economic growth. Several agreements have been reached to respect sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of one another, and to cooperate in a friendly way among themselves.

Having signed the Declarations of the Singapore Summit including the ASEAN Charter at the 13th ASEAN Summit of Heads of State/Government, member countries will be able to forge cohesion and integration.

Hole-in-one

YANGON, 24 Nov— Chairman of Loi Hein Co Ltd Dr Sai Hsam Tun scored an ace from 133 yards at hole No 16 at Ngwethawda Golf Resort of YCDC today while striking Titleist Pro-v-1 ball with Honma Iron-8.

His partners were U Aung Myat (Mother Trading Co Ltd) and U Htin Aung Kyaw (Golden Cougar Co Ltd).—H

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ

လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၇-ခုနှစ် နိုဝင်ဘာလအတွက်

နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)
(၂၅-၁၁-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့

၂၀၀၇-ခုနှစ် ဒီဇင်ဘာလအတွက်

(၉-၁၂-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့
နှင့်
(၃၀-၁၂-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့

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

Mathoe Thingan offered at pagodas on Fullmoon Day

YANGON, 24 Nov — Today is Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmon (Samaññahpala Day). On that significant day of Buddhists, pagodas, stupas and religious buildings were packed with devotees and pilgrims and they performed meritorious deeds.

In addition, Mathoe Thingan Weaving Contests were held at Shwedagon, Kaba Aye, Botahtaung, Shwephonepwin, Kyaikkasan, Moegaung and Kyaikhauk pagodas. Officials presented prizes to the respective winners. Afterwards, they offered the already-woven robes to Buddha images of the pagodas. Likewise, Kathina robes offering ceremonies were also organized at monasteries. Wellwishers donated Kathina robes and alms to members of the Sangha. Furthermore, people offered various

Shwedagon Pagoda being packed with Buddhist devotees on 24 November (Fullmoon day of Tazaungmon). NLM



kinds of foods and snacks to the people at the charities in commemoration of the Tazaungdaing lighting

festival in townships of Yangon Division.

Moreover, devotees and people practised

meditation at the religious buildings and monasteries.

MNA

Robe weaving competition at Shwephonepwin Pagoda

YANGON, 24 Nov— An opening ceremony of 17th Mathoe Thingan weaving competition was held at Shwephonepwin Pagoda in Pazundaung Township, here, yesterday evening.

Chairman of the pagoda board of trustees U Tint Lwin explained matters on the competition. Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise and officials formally opened

the ceremony. A total of ten teams participated in the competition.—MNA

3,268 jade lots sold in eight days

YANGON, 24 Nov— The Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2007 continued at the Myanmar

Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road, Mayangon Township here this morning.

Patron of Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint visited the emporium and cordially greeted gem merchants.

Altogether 50 jade lots were sold through competitive bidding system today. So far 3,268 jade lots were sold through tender and competitive bidding system from 17 November to date. A total of 3,614 national and foreign gem merchants attended the sales. The remaining jade lots are sold up to 26 November.

MNA



Gem merchants examine jade lots at Mid-year Myanmar Gems Emporium.—MNA

Switzerland pulls military staff out of Afghanistan

GENEVA, 23 Nov — Switzerland announced on Wednesday that it would end its four years' cooperation with the NATO-led international forces in Afghanistan by recalling its military personnel.

Two Swiss Army officers, currently working with a German team in the northeastern Kunduz Province, will

return home by March next year, Swiss Defence Minister Samuel Schmid told a Press conference in Bern, the Swissinfo website reported.

Schmid said he took the decision for security reasons. The NATO-led mission in Afghanistan has become a peace enforcement operation rather than a peacekeeping duty, he said.

According to Schmid, a continued Swiss Military presence in Afghanistan — although “rather symbolic” — is impossible because it goes against the spirit of the Constitution and is not in line with the law.

The Swiss decision comes a few weeks after a meeting of NATO defence ministers to boost efforts to provide security in Afghanistan.

MNA/Xinhua



One of the flying contraptions. “JO-KO”, land in the creek after during the Red Bull Flugtag in the Creek Park in Dubai, on 23 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET



Singers in Christmas costumes pose for photos at Hong Kong Disneyland, on 22 Nov, 2007. The Disney's Sparkling Christmas kicked off on Thursday, which brought many festival activities to public and changed Hong Kong Disneyland into a fairyland. XINHUA

Experts say militants educated in cyber training camps

WIESBADEN (Germany), 23 Nov — The Internet has become a key teaching tool for Islamist militants who are using it to educate recruits in cyber training

camps, crime and security experts said on Wednesday.

Gabriel Weimann, an Israeli Internet security expert who teaches at the

University of Haifa in Israel and the University of Mainz in Germany, said militants used to do all their training at secret camps in countries like Afghanistan.

“Now they meet in cyberspace,” Weimann told an annual meeting of global crime and security specialists at the headquarters of Germany's Federal Police Office (BKA).

He said Islamist groups like al-Qaeda used websites and chat rooms not only for propaganda but also for education.

“They teach people how to become terrorists on-line,” Weimann said. “Al-Qaeda has launched a practical website that shows how to use weapons, how to carry out a kidnapping, how to use fertilizer to make bombs.” — MNA/Reuters

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Rich nations' urged responsibility for climate change

KAMPALA, 23 Nov — Mark Collins, director of the Commonwealth Foundation, on Thursday urged rich nations to take responsibility for climate change and quickly begin reducing harmful emissions.

“It is clear that climate change runs much more quickly than what we feared and we are seeing its impact all of the world,” said Collins.

“The rich nations have a big responsibility now to work together and provide

financial and technological support for adaptation to climate change to developing countries,” said Collins. Collins told Xinhua that poor countries who have had no part in causing climate change is highly vulnerable to

climate change.

He said that Commonwealth is particularly vulnerable to the impact of climate change because of 53 Commonwealth countries, 32 are small economies. MNA/Xinhua



Japanese physicist Sumio Iijima, right, is applauded by Switzerland's President Pascal Couchepin, left, after being awarded the Balzan Prize for his discovery of the carbon nano tubes, during a ceremony in Bern, Switzerland, on 23 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET

Ex-defence chiefs turn on UK's Brown

LONDON, 24 Nov — Britain's Government scrambled to defend its record on Friday after five former defence chiefs accused Prime Minister Gordon Brown of neglecting the Armed Forces and risking soldiers' lives.

Former military heads have occasionally grumbled in the past that the Armed Forces are underfunded for two wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. But speeches in the House of Lords by five retired Armed Forces chiefs on Thursday amounted to an attack on their former political masters unheard of in modern times.

The criticism came on the day a report accused the government of selling off the Defence Ministry's research arm for far too little money, allowing a handful of senior civil servants who negotiated the deal to earn millions of pounds.

Admiral Michael Boyce, who led British forces into Iraq before retiring in 2003, said there was “blood on the floor” at the Ministry of Defence as officials rushed to slash spending programmes while soldiers fought abroad.

General Charles Guthrie, chief of defence staff from 1997-2001, said Brown was personally to blame for failing to fund the forces during a decade in charge of the treasury.

“He was the most unsympathetic Chancellor of the Exchequer as far as defence is concerned,” he said. “I think really he must take much of the blame for the very serious situation we find the services in today.” —MNA/Reuters

Anniversary of China-India Friendship Association marked in Beijing

BEIJING, 24 Nov — A reception was held in Beijing on Thursday to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the founding of China-India Friendship

Association. Addressing the occasion, Jiang Zhenhua, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's

Congress and president of the association, said the two countries enjoy traditional good-neighbourly relations. Chinese President Hu Jintao's successful visit to India last year had further promoted bilateral strategic partnership of co-operation to a new stage.

The association, as one of the earliest diplomatic organizations founded in China, has sponsored lots of bilateral exchange programmes which helped to cement the friendship between the two peoples, Jiang said.

MNA/Xinhua



A woman straightens the pillow of a bed at the Millionaire Fair of luxury goods in Moscow on 23 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET



Dr Abdul Manan, a surgeon at the Nishtar hospital in Multan, points to an x-ray of a glass bottle lodged in a man's lower abdomen on 21 Nov, 2007.

INTERNET

Strong earthquake hits Papua New Guinea

CANBERRA, 23 Nov — A 6.7 magnitude earthquake hit near Papua New Guinea (PNG)'s port city of Lae, the second largest city of the country, Thursday night. The US Geological Survey said the quake struck at 6:48 pm local time (0848 GMT) and was centred 101 kilometres north of Lae. The quake was underground at a depth of 77 kilometres and was 400 kilometres north of the capital of Port Moresby.

Australian man Larry George said it was a large quake that was felt for a long time.— MNA/Xinhua

Four killed, ten injured in bus blast in South Russia

Moscow, 23 Nov — At least four people were killed and 10 injured in a bus explosion in the Russian Caucasus Republic of North Ossetia on Thursday, a local police source said.

"A child is among those killed. Ten people have been hospitalized and one woman is in a very severe condition," he was quoted by the RIA Novosti news agency as saying.

A spokesman for the North Ossetian investigation committee said the blast occurred at about 6.00 p.m. Moscow Time (1500 GMT) when the bus was running from Pyatigorsk to Vladikavkaz.

An investigative group has been sent to the scene, the source said.— MNA/Xinhua

Blast rocks S Philippine shopping mall

MANILA, 23 Nov — A powerful explosion rocked a shopping mall in southern Philippine region of Mindanao on Thursday afternoon, killing at least one person while injuring four others, local police said.

The blast occurred at 05:00 pm local time at KMCC mall in downtown Kidapawan City of North Cotabato Province, officials with Kidapawan police station said in a phone interview.— MNA/Xinhua

At least 10 killed in al-Qaeda clash in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 23 Nov — Al-Qaeda militants killed at least eight members of a neighbourhood police patrol in southern Baghdad on Thursday after shooting two Iraqi soldiers and stealing their vehicle, police said.

The al-Qaeda fighters drove up to the police patrol in the stolen Iraqi Army vehicle before opening fire in an attack in the Hawr Rajab area of southern Baghdad's Doura District, a predominantly Sunni Arab area and al-Qaeda stronghold.—MNA/Reuters

Sweet factory explosion injures 21 in south China

GUANGZHOU, 23 Nov — Twenty-one workers were injured in an explosion in a sweet factory in Shantou, a coastal city in south China's Guangdong Province, on Wednesday.

Most of the victims from the accident at Guangdong Fuwei Fruits and Nuts Manufacturing Co, Ltd. suffered severe burns from being sprayed by boiling syrup, according to doctors.

Others suffered respiratory tract infections

after inhaling smoke from the ensuing fire.

The blast occurred at 8:50 am in a workshop on the second floor of the five-storey factory building when 34 employees were at work.

One factory worker who was working on the fifth floor said he heard a loud bang and felt the building shake.

A fire fighter said the flames were extinguished shortly after the explosion and they rescued the last

injured worker from the debris at about 9:30 am.

A deputy administrative chief from the privately owned company said one production line had been installed on the second floor and raw materials for making sweets were stored

there. All the injured are now in hospital.

Preliminary investigations suggest the explosion was caused by excess dust inside the second floor workshop.

MNA/Xinhua

Death toll mounts as Pakistan troops battle militants

MINGORA (Pakistan), 23 Nov — More than 40 people have been killed in two days of fighting in a

northwest Pakistani Valley as troops seek to wipe out militants trying to enforce Taliban-style rule, the military and witnesses said on Wednesday.

Major Amjad Iqbal, an Army spokesman, said 17 militants were killed in Swat Valley's Shangla District in gunbattles overnight, taking the death toll since Tuesday to 40.

Four civilians from the same family were killed by a mortar bomb on Wednesday elsewhere in the valley, a relative said.

Troops are using helicopter gunships and artillery to evict rebels led by hardline cleric Maulana Fazlullah from the scenic valley in North West Frontier Province, where weeks of fighting have killed about 300 people. MNA/Reuters



South Korean students hold up ornaments made with coloured mud, at a Toilet and Bath Expo in Seoul, on 22 Nov, 2007. Shigeru Omi, World Health Organisation director for the Western Pacific, said at the launch of the World Toilet Association that better sanitation and hygiene could save hundreds of thousands of children's lives a year at a cost equal to what Europe spends annually on ice cream.—INTERNET

Yangon-Mandalay Railroad, the life-blood...

(from page 16)
in 1988 to over 3,000 miles of railroad and over 4,000 miles of railtrack. The government has constructed more than 1,300 miles of railroads and 319 stations.

It has also built new railroads in Shan and Kayah States, and Taninthayi, Magway and Sagaing Divisions where there was no railroad in the past so as to launch new railroads such as ChaungU-Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay Railroad, Shwenyaung-Taunggyi-Namhsan Railroad, Kalaw-Pinlaung-Loikaw Railroad, and Yangon-Mawlamyine-Ye-Dawei Railroad.

In constructing new railroads, the government put in the fore the comfort and convenience of the people, without seeking

expediting construction of roads. As a result, the total length of roads has surged to more than 70,000 miles from only more than 20,000 miles in 1988. And it has built 236 bridges, 180 feet and above, including 21 major river-crossing ones.

The number of

international port terminals has risen to 28 from 13, and that of international container yards has touched 31 including three land container yards.

He quoted the guidance of Head of State given at the Union Solidarity and

standard of the people and transport facilities serve as basic foundations for cementing unity of national races.

It is required to be convinced that the drive for improving the transport sector is to ensure national development and national



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo addresses the opening of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Myohaung dual railroad.—MNA



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo unveils the stone inscription to mark the opening of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Myohaung dual railroad.—MNA

people.

Yangon-Mandalay Railroad is the life-blood of the nation's rail transportation sector, and links strategic towns and villages between Mandalay and Yangon.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 called on employees of the Ministry of Rail Transportation and local people to maintain the transport facility for its durability and safety.

Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and Minister for Rail

the minister formally opened the facility.

The Secretary-1 and party and employees of the Ministry of Rail Transportation posed for documentary photos.

The Secretary-1 unveiled the stone plaque to mark the opening ceremony.

The Secretary-1 and the minister sprinkled scented water onto the express train.

The Secretary-1 and party boarded the express and cordially greeted the

commercial gains. At the same time, it is extending some major railroads.

The government is

airports has reached more than 70 including two international standard ones. And the number of

Development Association (2007), as saying that smooth transport improves the living

In constructing new railroads, the government put in the fore the comfort and convenience of the people, without seeking commercial gains. At the same time, it is extending some major railroads.



Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min.—MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin.—MNA

unity in line with the guidance of the Head of State.

The nation will be prosperous if it has a sufficient number of development infrastructures with high education standard of the

Transportation also made speeches.

On behalf of local people, U Myint Kyaw of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township expressed thanks to the government for the facility.

The commander and

passengers and presented gifts to them.

Altogether 490 bridges including 10 ones, above 180 feet and above, had to be built to complete 157.75-mile Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Myohaung dual railroad.—MNA

(from page 16)

Chin State delegates of national race delegate group to the National Convention

Announcement

Date: 24 November 2007

Chin State delegates of the national race delegate group to the National Convention support the principles on national races and party affairs adopted by the National Convention.

We welcome formation of the Commission for Drafting State Constitution with national race legal experts under the announcement No 2/2007 of the State Peace and Development Council dated 18-10-2007 and assignment of duties.

We hereby announce that Chin State delegates will carry out the task for successful implementation of the seven-step Road Map in cooperation with the State.

**Chin State delegates
National Race delegate group**

Mon State delegates of national race delegate group to the National Convention

Announcement

Date: 24 November 2007

Mon State delegates from national race delegate group to the National Convention participated in the National Convention for enjoying the rights of the national races and emergence of a constitution that guarantees the rights of the national races and introducing a genuine discipline-flourishing democratic practice.

Our delegates of the national race delegate group held discussions within the group and with other groups. After the discussions, fundamental principles and detailed basic principles were laid down.

We settled different views based on national interest and national unity. At the National Convention, all the delegates unanimously laid down fundamental principles and detailed basic principles that represent the desire of all the national races and building of national unity.

We welcome meetings between Minister for Relations U Aung Kyi and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi regarding them as a positive move.

We support fundamental principles and detailed basic principles adopted at the National Convention and the seven-step Road Map. We invite the parties and organizations that failed to attend the National Convention from start to finish to take part in the coming election and exercise discipline-flourishing, genuine democratic practice with heart and soul.

**Mon State delegates
National Race delegate group**

Rakhine State delegates of national race delegate group to National Convention

Announcement

Date: 24 November 2007

We together with delegate groups of political parties, representatives-elect, peasants, workers, intellectuals and intelligentsia, State service personnel and other invited persons took part in the discussions at the National Convention.

We believe that the National Convention is the sole forum where we can discuss the national race affairs most widely.

In the statement of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi released by Mr Gambari on her behalf in Singapore on 8 November, she said that it was her duty to give constant and serious considerations to the interests and opinions of as broad a range of political organizations and forces as possible, in particular those of our ethnic nationality races. She also stated that she was committed to pursue that path of dialogue constructively. We object to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's statement as we assume that her statements ignored the National Convention.

Rakhine State delegates of national race delegate group to the National Convention announce that we will constantly carry out the tasks for national development and introduction of discipline-flourishing democracy under the leadership of the government.

**Rakhine State delegates
National Race delegate group**

Announcement of national race delegates from Taninthayi Division to National Convention

Date: 24 November 2007

At the National Convention, the delegates unanimously adopted the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles for formulating the forthcoming constitution.

Our delegate group participated in the Delegate Group of National Races at the National Convention and had the opportunity to participate in the discussions in laying down the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles for the emergence of an enduring constitution. As a result, the detailed basic principles had been adopted for enabling certain national races meeting the requirements to gain Self-administered Division/Zones and ethnic groups with stipulated population to participate in the Hluttaws of respective Regions/States and leading bodies of self-administered areas.

To formulate the constitution based on the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles, the Commission for Drafting State Constitution has already been formed. Hence, the good conditions are witnessed for realization of the seven-step Road Map phase by phase. Meanwhile, we welcome the meetings between Minister for Relations U Aung Kyi and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as a process to contribute to implementation of the seven-step Road Map.

However, the national race groups and organizations that had returned to the legal fold, rejected the statement issued in Singapore on 8 November by Mr Gambari authorized by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. These are complicated problems resulting from the statement. As such, we express that in future she should not issue statements abroad through Mr Gambari.

Our delegate group hereby announces that we oppose the statement that neglects the discussions of the national race delegates at the National Convention.

**Delegates from Taninthayi Division
Delegate Group of National Races**

Announcement of Modern Scientific Political Economy Study Group

Letter: 1 Bhasa (Sama-01/27) 2007

Date: 19 November 2007

1. Modern Scientific Political Economic Study Group is a national political force that is constantly engaged in policy research on economic, political and social affairs at home and abroad.
2. Our study group understands that national reconsolidation, stability and peace in the nation, economic development, higher living standard and intellectual power of the people are indispensable for the emergence of a new, modern and developed nation.
3. It is obvious that peoples of certain nations, which have been encroached upon by some big nations under the pretext of democracy and human rights, have to suffer much. In the meantime, it is vividly seen that the People's Republic of China and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, which practise market economic system in conformity with prevailing situations of the nations such as peace, stability and social life, have made progress with added momentum.
4. In Myanmar, the Tatmadaw government has laid down and is implementing the objectives while practising market economic system and multiparty system.

(See page 7)

(from page 6)

Announcement of Modern Scientific Political...

Now, the seven-step Road Map is being implemented for the emergence of a new democratic nation. Hence, we welcome the meetings between Minister for Relations U Aung Kyi and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for national reconsolidation.

5. The National reconsolidation means the building of unity among national forces. All the forces exist inside the nation, and the best lessons and experiences also lie within the nation. Every nation has the right to shape its destiny.
6. The building of trust between Minister for Relations U Aung Kyi and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi through their meetings was not due to pressures from abroad but due to mutual understanding based on changes and developments. One-sided pressures imposed by some big nations for nearly two decades were not proper and thus they did not hold water.
7. A study of the history will show that dialogues failed due to the attempts of the opponents who unilaterally coerced a ruling government which was in a constructive move to national reconsolidation regarding that the move was made out of difficulty and outside pressure.
8. Therefore, certain points in the statement of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi that was released by Mr Gambari, the special adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on her behalf, imply that

(1) she represents political parties, political forces, especially national race groups that are nothing to do with her based on her sole wish to coerce the government; (2) she does not wish to acknowledge the National Convention held in line with the seven-step Road Map and fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention; (3) she thinks herself to be savior relegating political parties, political forces, especially national race groups instead of extending mutual respect and understanding. And this may harm national reconsolidation efforts and the building of a democratic nation by the entire national people to a certain extent.

9. Therefore, we hereby announce that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the NLD need to take part in the successful realization of the seven-step Road Map and lifting of economic sanctions imposed on the nation. Only then, will the building of mutual trust between the government and the NLD led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi be possible, and will a new democratic nation soon be established with the least suffering.

Modern Scientific Political Economy Study Group

Mongkaung Special Force Announcement

Letter No. 0010/ Ta Wa Ra/ 2007

Date: 15 November 2007

Mongkaung Special Force was formed on 10 June 1983 with the aim of ensuring regional security, the rule of law and regional development. In addition, under the leadership of the Tatmadaw, we are working together with the State.

We object to the point in the statement of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi released through Mr Gambari, adviser to the UN Secretary-General, on 8 November implying that she represented all national races.

Furthermore, we disapprove of the point that she was responsible for the wishes and interests of the national races stated of her statement released as the decision of the NLD meeting on 12 November.

We hereby announce that we will take part in the successful implementation of the Seven-Step Road Map under the leadership of the government.

Mongkaung Special Force



Wellwishers present jewellery to responsible persons.—H

Jewellery donated to Seinda Muni Pagoda in NyaungU

YANGON, 24 Nov — A ceremony to donate jewellery for Seinbudaw (Diamond Orb) to be fixed at Htidaw (Umbrella) of Seinda Muni Pagoda in NyaungU Township, Mandalay Division was held at the residence of donor physician U Kyaw Sein (Mogok)-Daw Nan Khamsa on Okkthaphaya street in Kyaikkasan Ward in Bahan Township today.

Donor U Kyaw Sein- Daw Nan Khamsa family presented jewellery and Buddha images worth 11.7 million kyats and cash and traditional medicines for monks and nunneries to Chairman U Aung Swe of Insein Township PDC and other wellwishers donated cash and kind through a responsible person.

The wellwishers fixed jewellery at the Seinbudaw.—H

'Soon' offered to monks of State Pariyatti Sasana University

YANGON, 24 Nov — Under the aegis of Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win, the staff families of the Ministry of Information offered 'soon' to members of the Sangha from State Pariyatti Sasana University (Yangon) at Mogok Refectory on Kaba Aye Hill in Mayangon Township today.

At the ceremony Director-General U Khin Maung Htay of Myanma Radio and Television, Managing Director U Aung Myo Myint of Myanma Motion Picture Enterprise and officials donated 'soon' to members of the Sangha.

MNA

Korean Ambassador's Cup Taekwondo

YANGON, 24 Nov — Jointly organized by Korea International Cooperation of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, Myanmar Taekwondo Federation and the Ministry of Sports, Korean Ambassador's Cup Taekwondo Championship 2007 was opened at National Indoor Stadium (Thuwanna), here, today.

The junior Taekwondo players took part in the individual and team competitions.

The championship contributed a lot to improvement of Myanmar junior Taekwondo players' skills and techniques.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and Counsellor Mr Manoj Kumar Bharti of Indian Embassy light oil lamps to mark Dipavali Day for 2007.—MNA

MIBC holds Dipavali Day 2007

YANGON, 24 Nov — Organized by Myanmar-India Business Chamber, Dipavali Day for 2007 was held in conjunction with a New Year get-together at the Sedona Hotel, here, yesterday.

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Counsellor Mr Manoj Kumar Bharti of Indian Embassy and chairman U Maung Shwe of MIBC lit the commemorative lamp.

Executive Mr C Murali of MIBC extended greetings.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung also spoke on the occasion.

General Secretary Mr R K Ananda of MIBC spoke words of thanks and a dinner was hosted to the attendees.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends 11th ASEAN-Japan Summit, 11th ASEAN-ROK Summit, 6th ASEAN-India Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Nov — Prime Minister General Thein Sein attended the 11th ASEAN-Japan Summit, the 11th ASEAN-ROK Summit and the 6th ASEAN-India Summit at Acacia Ballroom of Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore on 21 November.

Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong welcomed Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries including the Prime Minister of Myanmar who arrived there to attend the 11th ASEAN-Japan Summit.

Before the summit, the heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries and Japanese Prime Minister Mr Yasuo Fukuda posed for documentary photo.

Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong presided over the summit.

The Japanese Prime Minister discussed solving of the problem of international terrorism, global climate change and prevention and preparedness against natural disasters, control of infectious diseases, increasing assistance for realization of the ASEAN goal,



Prime Minister General Thein Sein, heads of ASEAN countries and Japanese Prime Minister Mr Yasuo Fukuda pose for a group photo at 11th ASEAN-Japan Summit.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein, heads of ASEAN countries and President of the Republic of Korea Mr Roh Moo Hyun pose for a group photo at 11th ASEAN-ROK Summit.—MNA

establishment of free trade area, promotion of trade and investment between ASEAN and Japan and establishment of East Asian Community.

The Heads of State/Government exchanged views on combating international terrorism, energy security, control of AIDS, cooperation in solving transnational crimes, security of territorial waters, development of human resources, promotion of trade and investment, more assistance to be provided by Japan for development and integration of ASEAN and establishment of East Asian Community.

The Japanese Prime Minister discussed the views of the heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries and gave suggestions on promotion of cooperation between ASEAN and Japan.

The 11th ASEAN-ROK Summit commenced at 10 am at the same venue, presided over by Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong.

Before the summit, heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries and Korean President Mr Roh Moo Hyun posed for documentary photo.

The Korean President discussed promotion of relations between ASEAN and Korea, cooperation in economic sector, establishment of free trade area, setting up of East Asian Community, combating terrorism, peace and stability of Korean Peninsula and disarmament of nuclear weapons, establishment of ASEAN-

Korea Centre and environmental conservation.

The Heads of State/Government exchanged views on peace and stability in the region, combating of international terrorism, energy security, eradication of narcotic drugs, preventing disturbances against communication network, setting up of ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area, establishment of ASEAN-Korea Centre to serve as the source of information and performance,

ASEAN-Korea economic cooperation, continued assistance for ASEAN integration and technology transfer.

Next, the Korean President responded to the discussions of the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries.

The MoU signing ceremony between ASEAN and Korea took place at Island B Ballroom at 11.35 am.

Afterwards, Ministers for Foreign Affairs of ASEAN countries including Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Korea signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Establishing the ASEAN-Korea Centre. Next, the Korean and the Singaporean Foreign Minister exchanged notes.

The Singaporean FM handed over the MoU to the ASEAN Secretary-General. Next, they posed for documentary photo.

ASEAN Economic Ministers including Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha and the Trade Minister of the Republic of Korea signed the Agreement on Trade in Services under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation.

The Korean Minister for Trade and the Singaporean Economic Minister exchanged notes.

(See page 9)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein, heads of ASEAN countries and Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh pose for a group photo at 6th ASEAN-India Summit.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets Indian Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Nov — Prime Minister General Thein Sein met Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh at Madarin Oriental Hotel in Singapore at 7 pm on 20 November.

Also present on the occasion were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Win Myint, Director-General of Government Office Col Thant Shin and officials.

Together with the Indian Prime Minister, Minister of Commerce and Industry Mr Kamal Nath and senior officials were present.

The two Prime Ministers exchanged views on bilateral friendship and cooperation.—MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh in Singapore.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends dinner hosted by Singaporean Prime Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Nov—Prime Minister General Thein Sein of the Union of Myanmar attended the dinner hosted by Prime Minister of Singapore Mr Lee Hsien Loong and wife at Raffles Ballroom of Raffles City Convention Centre in Singapore at 8 pm on 20 November.

Also present on the occasion were Brunei Darussalam King Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkia, Muizzadin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun

Sen, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Lao PDR Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh, Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, President of the Philippines Madama Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Thai Prime Minister General Surayud Chulanont, Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung, Premier of the People's Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao, Prime Minister of India

Dr Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of Japan Mr Yasuo Fukuda, President of Republic of Korea Mr Roh Moo Hyun, Prime Minister of New Zealand Mrs Helen Clark, Foreign Affairs Minister of Australia Mr Alexander Downer, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Chairman of Civil Service Selection

and Training Board Dr Than Nyun, ministers from ASEAN nations, Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea and New Zealand and deputy ministers, high-ranking officials and guests.

Before the dinner, heads of State/Government of ASEAN and East Asian countries had a documentary photo taken.

During the dinner, they were entertained with music and songs and dance of Singaporean cultural troupes.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends ...

(from page 8)

The Singaporean Minister for Trade and Industries handed over the agreement to the ASEAN Secretary-General. Then, they had documentary photo taken.

The Sixth ASEAN-India Summit took place at the same venue, presided over by Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong.

Before the summit, heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries and Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh posed for a documentary photo.

The Indian Prime Minister discussed boosting of trade and investment between ASEAN and India, promotion of friendly relations between the peoples of both sides, development of human resources, greater cooperation in health, science and technological fields, setting up of science and technological funds, establishment of East-West Corridor by extending air routes, water way and road transport between the two regions, narrowing of development gap among ASEAN countries, poverty alleviation and setting up of free trade area.

The heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries exchanged views on extended implementation of ASEAN-India cooperation programme for sharing peace, development and profits, enhancement of education, training and efficiency, setting up of science and technology funds, establishment of ASEAN-India Free Trade Area and development of air routes, water way, (See page 10)



Prime Minister General Thein Sein, heads of ASEAN and East Asian countries pose for a documentary photo at the dinner hosted by the Singaporean Prime Minister and wife.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein participates ...

(from page 1)

ASEAN+3 funds, narrowing the development gap among ASEAN countries, implementation for suggestions of the East Asian Observatory Group, extension of trade and investment, extended cooperation in financial sector, designation of East Asian Free Trade Area, cooperation in development sectors, storage of fuel, efficient use of natural gas and substitute-fuel, environmental conservation and problem of climate change. They approved the Second Joint Statement on East Asian Cooperation and the ASEAN+3 Cooperation Work Plan (2007-2017).

The ceremony to mark the 10th anniversary of the ASEAN+3 was held at Island B Ballroom, attended by the heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries and China, Japan and Korea.

Alternate Chairman of the ASEAN Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong unveiled the ASEAN Logo.

The 11th ASEAN-China Summit took place at the same

venue at 4 pm.

The Chinese Premier explained cooperation between ASEAN and PRC, assistance of China for ASEAN integration, cooperation in emergence of a peaceful and developed society, combating narcotic drugs, food hygiene and security and environmental conservation.

The heads of State/Government of ASEAN discussed cementing friendly relations between ASEAN and China, development of trade and investment between ASEAN and China, establishment of a free trade area, peace and stability of Korean Peninsula and disarmament of nuclear weapons, combating international terrorism, peace and stability and development of East Asia, eradication of illegal narcotic drug and extended cooperation in other sectors.

Next, General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine Minister Mr Li Changjiang of PRC and ASEAN Secretary-General Mr Ong Keng Yong signed the



Prime Minister General Thein Sein, heads of ASEAN countries and Chinese Premier Mr Wen Jiabao pose for a documentary photo at 11th ASEAN+China Summit.

MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends signing ceremony of the 11th ASEAN+China Summit.—MNA

MoU on Strengthening Sanitary and Phytosanitary Cooperation in the presence of the heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries and the Premier of PRC. MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends 10th Anniversary of 11th ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends ...

(from page 9)

railway link and road transport among the countries in the region.

The Indian Prime Minister responded to discussions of heads of

State/Government of ASEAN countries for ASEAN-India cooperation and future plans.

At 1 pm, heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries, heads

of China, Japan, India, Korea, Australia and New Zealand and the ASEAN Secretary-General attended the working luncheon at Banyan Ballroom.

MNA

Vice-President U Kyaw Naing of MCF presents sports gear to President of MCF U Nyunt Win.

MCF

Sports gear presented to MCF

YANGON, 24 Nov — Vice-President of Myanmar Cricket Federation U Kyaw Naing, resident representative of Lam Wah ee and Tung Shing Hospital Malaysia presented sports equipment to President of MCF U Nyunt Win at the training ground here today.

New generation Myanmar cricketers undergoing training to take part in the U-15 tourney in Thailand played a tune-up match at the ground.

High school cricket matches were also held at the ground. — MNA



ECONOMIC NEWS

China, ASEAN to become Vietnam's biggest import markets in '07

HANOI, 24 Nov — China and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) are expected to be Vietnam's biggest import markets this year, local newspaper *Investment* reported Friday.

Vietnam's imports from China and the ASEAN are expected to respectively account for 20 per cent and 25 per cent of its anticipated total import revenues of 59 billion US dollars in 2007, the paper quoted the

Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade as reporting.

Vietnam's major import items from the two markets include machines, equipment, steel, fertilizers and motorbikes.

Vietnam, which reaped import turnovers of 44.4 billion dollars in 2006, spent nearly 50 billion dollars on importing goods in the first 10 months of 2007, according to the General Statistics Office. — *MNA/Xinhua*



Villagers package bags of Olive sea turtle eggs for sale at Ostional beach on the northern Pacific coast of Costa Rica, on 19 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET



Hitachi Ltd Advance Research Laboratory staff Ryoko Ichinose holds humanoid robot EMIEW 2 during a press preview at its research center in Hitachinaka, north of Tokyo, on 21 Nov, 2007.

XINHUA

Exxon signs exploration pact with Libya

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov— Exxon Mobil Corp signed a deal Tuesday to explore for oil and natural gas off the Libya coast, further cementing ties with the oil-rich North African nation, *The Wall Street Journal* reported Wednesday.

Unlike previous exploration deals that Exxon has won in Libya in the past couple of years, the latest deal was negotiated directly between the two, outside the auction process.

Under the deal, Exxon, of Irving, Texas, agreed to look for oil and gas in a deep-water area about 110 miles off the Libyan coast in the Mediterranean Sea. It has

agreed to drill at least one well and will pay a bonus to the Libyan Government.

The company did not disclose the size of the bonus.

As a growing number of nations have cut off foreign companies' access to oil fields in the past few years, Libya has emerged as a prominent exception.

In recent months, Britain's BPPLC and Italy's Eni SpA have signed exploration deals with Libya, and dozens of companies have participated in three rounds of bidding for exploration blocks both offshore and on land.

MNA/Xinhua

India hopes to agree

ASEAN free trade deal by March

NEW DELHI, 24 Nov — India hopes to wrap up a free trade agreement with ASEAN by March

next year, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said on Wednesday in Singapore, and he vowed to show flexibility in negotiations.

The Association of South-East Asian Nations, which signed a landmark charter on Tuesday aiming for economic integration, is meeting leaders from Japan, China, South Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand in the annual "ASEAN+6" meeting.

"I have no doubt that we all share a

common political will to reach an agreement at the earliest," Singh said in his speech in the city state, a copy of which was released in New Delhi.

"I want to assure you that on its part India has shown and will continue to show, the necessary flexibility and determination to achieve this objective.

"We will work together with you to conclude the negotiations, as agreed, by March next year."

MNA/Reuters

Malaysia's AirAsia not to raise its fuel surcharge

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 Nov — Malaysian low-cost airline AirAsia will not raise its fuel surcharge despite the rise in world crude oil prices, which topped 99 US dollars a barrel Wednesday, local media reported Thursday.

"No, not at the moment. One must build a sustainable business, at whatever the cost of oil is," AirAsia founder and group chief executive

officer Tony Fernandes told reporters at the AirAsia Academy in Sepang, a town in central state of Selangor, on Wednesday after two signing ceremonies.

He added that heavier planes required more fuel, "but it's not fair to put a fuel surcharge on someone who's not carrying a bag, as opposed to someone who's carrying six bags".

"We like to investigate

different ways of doing different things," *The Star* quoted Fernandes as saying. Earlier, AirAsia signed an agreement with Aviation Australia to have its existing technicians trained in aircraft maintenance, fulfilling the requirements by the European Aviation Safety Agency.

AirAsia X, the group's long-haul budget carrier, also signed a five-year

agreement with Tourism Queensland to promote Gold Coast, Australia.

Currently there were four flights a week to Gold Coast. Its first flight there was on 2 November, AirAsia X chief executive officer Azran Osman Rani said.

"We plan to increase it to a flight a day, as more aircraft become available," Azran said.

MNA/Xinhua



A Swiss Army Super Puma helicopter drops water on flames during a presentation on the Lake Lugano during the Swiss Army days 2007 exhibition in Lugano on 22 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENTS

မြန်မာကျပ်ငွေဖြင့် ချိပ်ပိတ်တင်ဒါခေါ်ယူခြင်း

စဉ်	ပစ္စည်းအမျိုးအမည်	အရေအတွက်	တင်ဒါခေါ်ရက်	တင်ဒါပိတ်ရက်
၁။	Raw Material For Tile Plant	7 Items	26.11.2007	6.12.2007
၂။	Raw Material For Refractories Brick	3 Items	26.11.2007	6.12.2007
၃။	Steel Lining Plate	1 Lot	26.11.2007	24.12.2007
၄။	Heavy Equipment Spare Parts	1 Lot	26.11.2007	24.11.2007

အမှတ်(၁)စက်မှုဝန်ကြီးဌာန မြန်မာ့ကြွေထည်မြေထည်လုပ်ငန်း၊ ရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဌာန၊ ရုံးအမှတ်(၄၁) နေပြည်တော်တွင် ရုံးချိန်အတွင်း ဆက်သွယ်စုံစမ်းပြီး တင်ဒါပုံစံများကို လာရောက်ဝယ်ယူနိုင်ပါသည်။
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(အသေးစိတ်သိရှိလိုပါက စုံစမ်းရန် တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ်-၀၆၇-၄၀၅၂၉၈
မြန်မာ့ကြွေထည်မြေထည်လုပ်ငန်း)

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (140)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BOUGAIN VILLA VOY NO (140) are here by notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.11.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S PREMIER SPECTRUM SDN BHD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (155)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (155) are here by notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.11.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES PTE LTD
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Tropical storm "Hagibis" approaches South China islands

HAIKOU, 23 Nov — Tropical storm Hagibis, the 25th this year, is approaching the Nansha islands in the South China Sea after affecting tens of thousands of fishermen in Vietnam.

Hagibis, meaning "rapidity" in the Tagalog language of the Philippines, was located at 9.8 degrees

north Latitude and 113.2 degrees east Longitude at 2:00 am on Thursday, the Hainan provincial meteorological observatory said.

It was packing winds of about 100 kilometres per hour at its eye and sweeping northwestward at a speed of 10 kilometres per hour, the observatory said.

The observatory forecast wind and rain for the coastal areas of Hainan on Thursday and Friday and gales of up to 110 kilometres per hour.

On Wednesday, Vietnam asked nearby countries to give shelter to thousands of its fishermen caught up in the tropical storm.

MNA/Xinhua

Beijing builds weather stations for Olympic sites

BEIJING, 23 Nov — Beijing has set up new automatic weather stations (AWS) around local sports venues, in order to provide accurate weather forecasts for the 2008 Olympic Games, a local newspaper — the *Beijing News* — reported on Wednesday.

Currently, the city has

176 AWSs, one for every five square kilometres in urban areas and one for every 10 or 15 square kilometres in the suburbs, a spokesman for the municipal meteorological bureau told the newspaper.

According to the official, the bureau plans to build up to 15 AWSs for Olympic sites, of which 12 have been completed.

The completed stations are in major Olympic venues like Olympic National Park, Shunyi Olympic Aquatic Park, Chaoyang Park, Xiannongtan Stadium, Fengtai Sport Centre, Beijing Country Equestrian Park, and the Tennis Centre of Olympic National Park.

"The 13th one is being built in the base of the Paralympic Games in Beijing's northeastern

Shunyi District," said the official.

"AWSs in Olympic sites have to meet special requirements such as the ability to measure visibility and total radiation and ultra-violet ray radiation. That is in addition to measuring temperature, barometric pressure, humidity, wind direction, wind force and precipitation", he said.

"These AWSs will collect meteorological information at the Olympic venues on a large scale and help local meteorological offices to provide more accurate and timely weather forecasts," he added.

Zhang Mingying, an expert with the bureau, said that to obtain more detailed and accurate weather information, more AWSs will be built in the city next year.

MNA/Xinhua

Five found dead in US murder-suicide

WASHINGTON, 24 Nov — Five people were found dead Friday in an apparent murder-suicide in a small park northwest of Washington, DC, Fox News reported.

Police say four of the victims, a woman and three children, were found together at the entrance of the park, some 40 kilometres from the US capital.

The body of a man was found later nearby, who died from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

All the killings took place in the previous night, the Thanksgiving night, police said.

"It looks like it is a domestic-related homicide-suicide," said police spokeswoman Porsha Jones of Montgomery County, Maryland, where the murder happened.

It was the latest domestic-related killings involving children in Maryland this year.

In April, a Montgomery County father hanged his two young children before committing suicide.

In March, the remains of four young children were found in their family home in neighbouring Frederick County.

Their father's body was found hanging from a banister and their mother remains missing.

MNA/Xinhua

Census shows NYC population at record high

NEW YORK, 23 Nov — The population of New York City has reached a record high of 8.25 million people, NY1 news channel reported on Wednesday.

The new numbers mean the city will receive an additional 77 million US dollars in federal aid, much of which will be put toward affordable housing, the report said. The increase comes after a recent challenge to the Census Bureau's 2000 count by the mayor's office.

It's the fourth straight year the city has successfully challenged census figures, raising the population by a total of 200,000 additional people.

MNA/Xinhua



A police official directs traffic outside the Constitutional Tribunal building in Bangkok. A proposed new law to boost patriotism in Thailand would be "chaotic" because it would require motorists to stop when the national anthem is played twice a day, lawmakers said on Friday. — INTERNET



A woman walks by Olive Ridley sea turtles returning to the ocean after laying their eggs at Ostional beach on the northern Pacific coast of Costa Rica, on 18 Nov, 2007. Ostional is one of a handful of beaches around the world where the Olive Ridley sea turtle arrives in mass to lay their eggs, with more than 100 million eggs laid over the week long nesting season.
INTERNET

Malaysians find gold in sand

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 Nov — The term “golden sands” has taken on a whole new literal meaning at the Kampung Seri Pantai beach, Malaysian southern Johor State, local media reported on Thursday.

Hundreds of people have been flocking to the beach since last week after

news spread that there was gold in the sand, the *New Straits Times* said.

The gold hunt continues well into the night with many, including housewives and children, combing the beach with torchlights and candles to look for “sparkly beads” buried in the sand.

It is not only the prospectors who have flocked to the beach, gold buyers are also on standby, ready to buy the precious

metal off anyone who finds it. Policemen have also been patrolling the area to prevent any untoward incident.

A villager, Zulhadnan Salehuddin, 39, said gold prospecting became frantic from last week after some villagers were said to have found between 1,000 ringgit (296 US dollars) and 2,000 ringgit (592 US dollars) worth of gold by panning the sand on the beach.

MNA/Reuters

Liver transplant outcomes better in UK than US

NEW YORK, 23 Nov— Although patients who undergo liver transplants in the US have a better 90-day survival rate, many of those who undergo the procedure in the UK and Ireland seem to do better after the first year, UK researchers report in the November issue of *Gut*.

Dr Muhammad F Dawwas of Addenbrooke’s Hospital, Cambridge and colleagues note that international

comparisons of surgical results can be problematic and often fail to allow for long-term results.

However, they point out that the “standardized nature of liver transplantation practice makes it uniquely placed for undertaking reliable international comparisons of surgical outcome”.

To investigate further, the researchers examined data for a 10-year period. The data covered all 5,925 transplants performed in

the UK and Northern Ireland as well as all 41,866 transplants conducted in the US during the same time interval.

In the UK group, at 90 days, the mortality was about 17 per cent greater than in the US. Similar 90-day mortality increases were seen in the UK group for patients with acute liver failure — 27 per cent — and for those with chronic liver disease — 18 per cent.

MNA/Reuters

Vietnam raises petroleum retail prices

HANOI, 23 Nov — Petroleum firms in Vietnam increased retail prices of petroleum products on Thursday morning due to rising world prices, according to the Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Regarding A92 petroleum product, the retail price rose by 1,700 Vietnamese dong (VND) (over 0.1 US dollar) to 13,000 VND (over 0.8 dollar) per litre.

The price hike, decided by petroleum businesses, happened when the world oil price neared 100 dollars per barrel. This is the fifth time the petroleum retail prices in Vietnam have been adjusted since the beginning of this year.

Vietnam spent over six trillion VND (375 million dollars) on subsidizing retail prices of the products in the first ten months of this year, according to the ministry’s preliminary statistics.

The ministry has estimated that the figure may reach 12 trillion VND (750 million dollars) this year if oil prices stand at around 90 dollars per barrel.

Vietnam imported nearly 10.4 million tons of petroleum products worth over 5.8 billion dollars in the first ten months of this year, posting year-on-year rises of 12.1 per cent and 16 per cent, respectively, according to the General Statistics Office.

MNA/Xinhua

History shows climate changes led to famine, war

HONG KONG, 23 Nov — Global warming is one of the most significant threats facing humankind, researchers warned, as they unveiled a study showing how climate changes in the past led to famine, wars and population declines.

The world’s growing population may be unable to adequately adapt to ecological changes

brought about by the expected rise in global temperatures, scientists in China, Hong Kong, the United States and Britain wrote in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

“The warmer temperatures are probably good for a while, but beyond some level plants will be stressed,” said Peter Brecke, associate profes-

sor in the Georgia Institute of Technology’s Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.

“With more droughts and a rapidly growing population, it is going to get harder and harder to provide food for everyone and thus we should not be surprised to see more instances of starvation and probably more cases of hungry people clashing over scarce food and water.” Trawling through history and working out correlative patterns, the team found that temperature declines were followed by wars, famines and population reductions.

The researchers examined the time period between 1400 and 1900, or the Little Ice Age, which recorded the lowest average global temperatures around 1450, 1650 and 1820, each separated by slight warming intervals. “When such ecological situations

occur, people tend to move to another place. Such mass movement leads to war, like in the 13th Century, when the Mongolians suffered a drought and they invaded China,” David Zhang, geography professor at the University of Hong Kong, said in an interview on Thursday.

MNA/Reuters

Santa talks with Ramiro Quiroz, 6, at the Oakwood Center, which was heavily damaged by a fire in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and now re-opened in Gretna, La., on 19 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET



Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan holds “The Visit London Special Award for outstanding achievement” during the “London and Mumbai—a creative celebration” event in Mumbai on 22 Nov, 2007.
INTERNET



SPORTS

FIFA unveils poster for 2010 World Cup finals

DURBAN, 24 Nov — FIFA unveiled the official poster of the 2010 World Cup finals on Friday -- a striking design of the African continent forming a man's profile as he heads a ball.

The design was chosen after a nationwide public vote in South Africa.

FIFA president Sepp Blatter and Irvin Khoza, the chairman of the World Cup organizing committee, unveiled the poster two days before the preliminary-round draw for the finals.

Blatter hinted that the face in the poster was of the most famous player in Africa, who did not play in the last World Cup finals, which suggests it is based on Samuel Eto'o of Cameroon, three times African Footballer of the Year. —MNA/Reuters



South Africa's AB De Villiers bats under the watchful eye of New Zealand wicket keeper Brendon McCullum during the Pro20 game at Wanderers stadium in Johannesburg. Shaun Pollock took three wickets on his return to international cricket. —INTERNET

Ferguson says England are not lost cause

MANCHESTER (England), 24 Nov — England's national team are not a lost cause despite their failure to qualify for the European Championship finals, Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson said on Friday.

The quality of English football has come under scrutiny since the 3-2 defeat to Croatia at Wembley on Wednesday which put England out of the competition and resulted in the sacking of coach Steve McClaren. Ferguson, the most successful club manager in English football history, believes, however, that there is still room for optimism and said McClaren's successor did not face a hopeless task.

"It (the job) is near impossible but it's not impossible because you have to think there is a good

thread in the England squad that is better than the performance of the other night," he told reporters.

"There are good players. There's no point in saying everything is wrong and everything is black — it's not. There are good players about."

Ferguson added: "It's no good looking at these players and saying everything is wrong about English football and what's happening at grassroots level.

"That's nothing to do with the present-day players. There are enough good players there to have a decent future for that particular squad." Ferguson said the style of play in the English Premier League was not counter-productive to fielding a successful national team.

MNA/Reuters



Roger Federer (R) of Switzerland poses with Pete Sampras of US after their tennis invitational exhibition match in Kuala Lumpur on 22 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET

Scolari will see out Portugal contract

RIO DE JANEIRO, 24 Nov — Portugal coach Luiz Felipe Scolari, whose name has been mentioned as a possible replacement for sacked England manager Steve McClaren, said on Friday he would stay in his present job until July at least. The fiery Brazilian, who turned down an offer to coach England two years ago in what was seen as a major embarrassment for the English Football Association, said he would see out his contract.

Portugal have qualified for the European championship in June.

"I have a contract with

Portugal, with the federation, until July 2008," Scolari said through his spokesman Acaz Fellegger. "This connection has been maintained on other occasions when I've been sounded out and asked. —MNA/Reuters

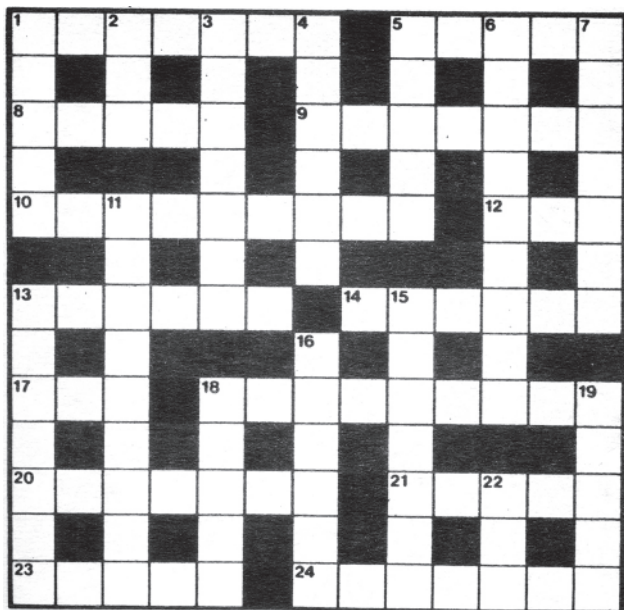
Cape Town to host 2010 World Cup finals draw

DURBAN, 24 Nov — Cape Town was named on Friday as the host city for the 2010 World Cup finals draw, on condition it fulfilled financial guarantees, organizers said.

The city was the preferred bidder for the event, scheduled for December 2009, but would have to agree to a number of conditions, local organizing committee chairman Irvin Khoza said. He gave no further details.

MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Revolved rapidly
- 5 Goddess of agriculture
- 8 Juicy gourd
- 9 Captain
- 10 Child-minder
- 12 Tear
- 13 Lay bare
- 14 Science of morals
- 17 5-centime piece
- 18 Street cleaner
- 20 Antiquated
- 21 Affray
- 23 Lowest point
- 24 Greatly feared

DOWN

- 1 Adult females
- 2 Unwell
- 3 Cattlefood
- 4 Consternation
- 5 Wept
- 6 Making a statement
- 7 Chevrons
- 11 Disclaimed
- 13 Contempt
- 15 Quiver
- 16 Like stale fat
- 18 Step
- 19 Reigned
- 22 Append

Indonesia promises cash bonus for winning athletes

JAKARTA, 24 Nov — Indonesian State Minister for Youth and Sports Affairs Adhyaksa Dault promised each Southeast Asian (SEA) Games gold medalist a cash bonus of 200 million rupiah (21,505 US dollars) and a house for each winning coach.

"You were chosen to win and not to lose, so each must bring home medals," the *Jakarta Post* daily Thursday quoted the minister as saying.

Each member of a winning team — in team events like volleyball, basketball and soccer — will receive a 200-million-rupiah bonus, he said during the inauguration of the country's contingent on Wednesday.

"If it comes true, we will be very happy. For us, it's not about the bonus but winning the gold for the country is more important," volleyball player Joni Sugiyatno was quoted as saying. However, sports observer Tommy Apriantono was shocked by the minister's statement.

"It will have broad consequences. Can you imagine how much we would have to spend if our soccer and baseball teams won gold medals," he said. —MNA/Xinhua



Egypt's Aroo el-Heim (R) passes the baton to team mate Salam Aied during the men's 100x4 relay finals at the Pan Arab Games in Cairo on 23 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET

Cheap tickets for locals at 2010 World Cup

DURBAN, 24 Nov — South Africans will get cheap tickets to watch the 2010 World Cup on home soil, local organizers announced on Friday.

Category Four tickets would be sold only to South African residents, they said. Details would be announced over the weekend after FIFA's World Cup organizing committee meeting in Durban. —MNA/Reuters



Hani Shaker of Egypt (L) celebrates with his sister his win over Wesam al Arfawi of Tunisia (not pictured) at the end of their Kumite Karate match at the Pan Arab Games in Cairo on 23 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET

Piece of Indonesian passenger jet's wing drops off

JAKARTA, 23 Nov — A chunk of wing dropped off an Indonesian passenger plane carrying 144 people minutes after take-off, forcing the aircraft to return to the capital, an airline official said on Thursday.

Wednesday's incident at Jakarta Airport renewed concerns about the safety of flying in Indonesia following two major air accidents this year.

The Boeing 737-400 operated by Batavia Air

landed safely and none of 138 passengers and six crew members were hurt, said Anton Situmeang, a spokesman for the airline.

Situmeang said the plane, which was due to

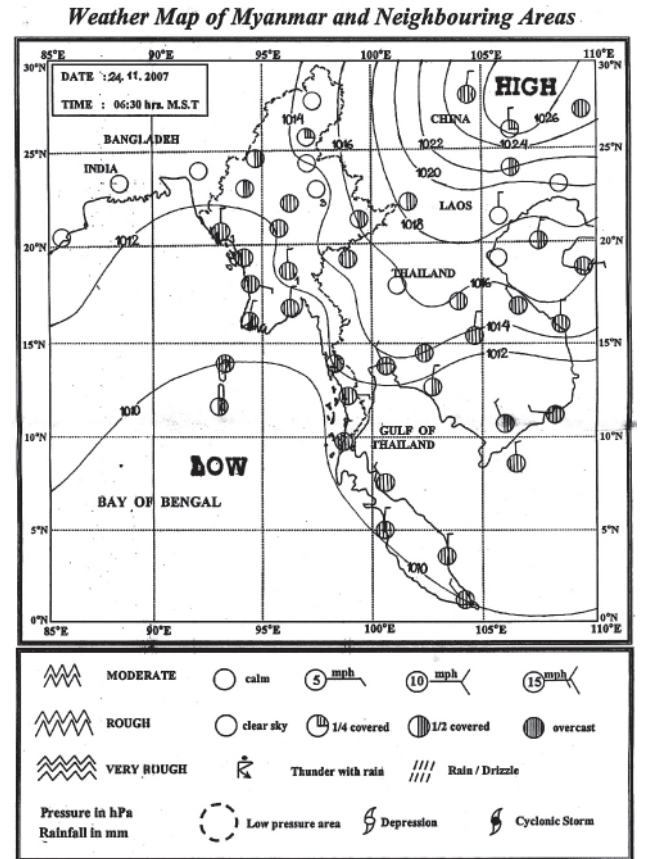
fly to Pontianak on Borneo Island, could have continued its journey safely without the part, which measured 40 centimetres (1.3 feet) by 50 centimetres. "But the pilot decided to return to the

airport. It was a standard procedure," he said.

Frans Wenas, senior investigator at Indonesia's National Transport Safety Committee, said the broken piece landed near the airport. Batavia Air is one of several budget carriers to emerge in Indonesia following the liberalization of the air industry in the late 1990s.

But the country has suffered a string of deadly accidents in recent years, raising questions about aviation safety.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Saturday, 24 November, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:

During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Kayah and Mon States, Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) below November average temperatures in Kachin State and Tainthayi Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above November average temperatures in Shan State, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Division and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Lashio and Maungdaw (0.12) inch each. The significant night temperatures was Hakha (4°C).

Maximum temperature on 23-11-2007 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 24-11-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 24-11-2007 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 23-11-2007 was (4.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 24-11-2007 was (Tr) inch at Mingaladon, (Tr) inch at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (136.57) inches at Mingaladon, (141.38) inches at Kaba-Aye and (144.29) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southeast at (13:00) hours MST on 23-11-2007.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Special features: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, yesterday's Typhoon (Hagibis) over the South China Sea is centered at about (340) miles East-Northeast of Hochiminh (Vietnam). It is almost stationary.

Forecast valid until evening of 25-11-2007: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Shan and Rakhine States, Bago and Ayeyawady Division, isolated in Chin and Mon States, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60)%.

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough Seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 25-11-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60)%.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-11-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60)%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-11-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40)%.

154 passengers rescued after cruiseliner crash in Antarctic Ocean

LONDON, 24 Nov— A total of 154 on board a luxury cruiseliner which sank after hitting an iceberg in the Antarctic Ocean were rescued on Friday.

The stricken Explorer is now listing at 45 degrees near the South Shetland Islands, off the Argentinian coast, Sky news reported.

The 100 passengers and 54 crew were evacuated on lifeboats and after enduring temperatures of minor 5 degree Celsius. Among them were 24 British, four Irish, 14

Americans, 12 Canadians and 10 Australians.

They were then ferried to cruiseship the Nord Norge, which was one of five boats sent to the scene, before sending back to Port Ushuaia, Argentina.

Nord Norge captain Arnvid Hansen said, "Everybody is in a good position. People are cold

but there is no hypothermia".

Two crew stayed on board for a time to pump out water from the Explorer, which suffered a 25 centimetres by 10 centimetres rupture in its hull after hitting the iceberg. The cruiseliner is expected to sink into the 2,000 feet depths. —MNA/Xinhua



Sunday, 25 November Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music -Smiling face
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music -Perfect to stay
- 8:50 am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music -Up!
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10am Cultural images of Myanmar -Nonstop drops of libation water
- 9:20 am Music -Get happy
- 1:30 pm News /Slogan
- 1:40 pm Children's delight (story) -The old woman and the rabbit's foot
- 1:50pm Songs for children
- 9:00 pm Weekly news review
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm L I E T S -Within you'll remain -Breaking my heart
- 9:45 pm News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Sunday, 25 November View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့မဟာနာယက အဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ပုံ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာရတနာ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာရတနာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇာတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am

2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတ၊ ဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာဘိဝံသ (ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပါဠိတော်

7:25 am

3. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning news

7:40 am

5. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

6. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ(၃၈)ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ

8:05 am

7. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:10 am

8. မဒေးရေလှောင်တံခံ

8:20 am

9. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

10. International news

8:45 am

11. Say it in English

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:10 am

2. Music programme

11:25 am

3. Round up of the Week's international news

11:40 am

4. ထက်မြက်ပျော်ရွှင် အိမ်ထောင်ရှင်

12:05 pm

5. "ပုံချစ်သူ" (ဇော်ဝမ်း၊ ရူပ၊ မင်းသူ၊ သတ္တိ၊ နိုင်နင်းဝေ) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-သုမောင်)

12:55 pm

6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

1:10 pm

7. မဟာဝံသမြတ်ဗုဒ္ဓ(ပထမပိုင်း)

1:45 pm

8. ကပ်တဲလ်ကြိုးတံတား

1:55 pm

9. Musical programme

2:10 pm

10. နှစ်လည်မြန်မာ့ကျောက်မျက် ရတနာပြပွဲ(၂၀၀၇)

2:20 pm

11. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:35 pm

12. လဂွမ်းပြင်ရေလှောင်တံခံ

2:45 pm

13. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song for uphold national spirit

4:30 pm

3. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-ပထမနှစ် (ရူပဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရူပဗေဒ)

4:45 pm

4. Dance of national races

5:00 pm

5. Musical programme

5:15 pm

6. Sing and enjoy

6:00 pm

7. Evening news

6:30 pm

8. Weather report

6:35 pm

9. "သစ်ရွက်ဆွေး သဘာဝ မြေဩဇာပြုလုပ်သုံးစွဲပါ" (ဝိုင်းစုခိုင်သိန်း) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)

6:40 pm

10. သက်တံရောင်သံစဉ်

7:00 pm

11. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နေပြည်ဆမ်းမှ" (အပိုင်း-၁၁)

8:00 pm

12. News

8:00 pm

13. International news

8:00 pm

14. Weather report

8:00 pm

15. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်(၁၅)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှုအဆို အက၊အရေး၊အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆုချီးမြှင့်ပွဲအခမ်းအနားဖျော်ဖြေမှု အစီအစဉ်

8:00 pm

16. သီတဇနာဆရာတော်အရှင်ဉာဏိ သာရ ၏သာမညဗလသုတ္တန် တရားတော်

8:00 pm

17. The next day's programme

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Yangon-Mandalay Railroad, life-blood of nation's rail transportation sector

Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Myohaung dual track section on Yangon-Mandalay Railroad inaugurated



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and party wave to the train passengers.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Nov—The inauguration of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Myohaung dual track section on Yangon-Mandalay Railroad of the Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation took place at the Nay Pyi Taw Station Project here at 6.35 am today.

Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo in his speech said that Yangon-Mandalay one-way railroad is being upgraded to a dual one. Completed sections are opened one after another, and Pyinmana-

Myohaung section is the last one of the railroad.

The government made sustained efforts with tenacity to complete a railroad in parallel with the 385.5-mile Yangon-Mandalay Railroad. Then, the government's benevolence towards the people has yielded fruits.

By reinforcing the main railroad, passenger trains and cargo trains can make more runs, can run at higher speed, and will be more punctual with security and safety.

Today, there have been a lot of changes and advancements in the transport sector, but rail transportation still remains a reliable transport means internationally and locally. Therefore, the government is paying serious attention to this point.

The government is also taking measures for smooth and safe transport and more train runs.

In its bid to upgrade the rail transportation sector, the government is taking steps such as upgrading the old railroads and building new ones, upgrading main railroads including Yangon-Mandalay Railroad to dual ones, launching more locomotives and cargo coaches and upgrading old ones, building new stations and upgrading railway stations to international level ones.

The total length of railroads has increased from over 1,900 miles of railroad and over 2,700 miles of railtrack
(See page 5)

Today, there have been a lot of changes and advancements in the transport sector, but rail transportation still remains a reliable transport means internationally and locally. Therefore, the government is paying serious attention to this point.

National Race Delegates of Chin, Rakhine, Mon States and Taninthayi Div to National Convention, Modern Scientific Political Economy Study Group and Mongkaung Special Force issue announcements

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Nov — Mr Gambari, the special adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General, released the statement of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on her behalf in Singapore on 8 November.

Political parties, national race armed groups that have returned to the legal fold, State/Division delegates of national race delegate group to the National Convention and some organizations are releasing announcements to express their disagreement and objection to the points in the statement.

Of the announcements sent to the dailies, those of Chin State, Rakhine State, Mon State and Taninthayi Division delegates from national race delegate group to the National Convention, Modern Scientific Political Economy Study Group and Mongkaung Special Force are as follows:-

(See page 6)