Kerry accuses Bush of turning his back on millions of Americans

XENIA (OHIO), 17 Oct — Democratic Senator John Kerry tore into US President George W Bush's economic record on Saturday and accused him of turning his back on millions of working Americans while pandering to the rich and powerful.

With just 17 days before the November 2 presidential election, Kerry crossed Ohio on a bus in an effort to win a state crucial to both candidates. "Mr President, the millions of Americans who have lost jobs on your watch are not 'myths' they are middle class families—and for four years, you've turned your back on them," Kerry told a town hall meeting at a high school.

Kerry was referring to remarks this week by Treasury Secretary John Snow who said, "Claims like the one that Bush will be the first president to end a term with fewer jobs than when he started are nothing more than 'myths'."

Kerry reeled off statistics to make his case—Ohio has lost 173,000 Ohio manufacturing jobs since Bush took office in 2001, unemployment rates are higher and 1.3 million Ohio residents lack health insurance.

"When it comes to reality, George Bush has a simple strategy: Ignore it, deny it, then try to hide it," Kerry said. "And when confronted with a mistake, try and explain things away."

"Mr President, the millions of Americans who have lost jobs on your watch caused by problems at a British manufacturer. Bush campaigned in another crucial state, Florida and attacked Kerry's record on voting for certain tax increases in the US Senate and on issues like gay marriage and abortion."

"Now, he is promising over 2.2 trillion US dollars in new spending, and paying for it would require big tax increases on small business and the middle class," the President said in his weekly radio address.

Kerry, who will campaign in Florida on Sunday and on Monday, dismissed Bush's comments as "scape tactics."

China spells out five tasks to preserve folk, ethnic culture

SHANGHAI, 17 Oct — China spells out a five-point policy to preserve folk and ethnic culture, said Chinese Cultural Minister Sun Jiazheng here Friday.

Sun addressed the unveiling ceremony of the seventh annual ministerial meeting of the International Network on Cultural Policy (INCP), which is being held from October 15-16. Sun said China has done five tasks for the preservation of traditional and folk culture.

China will make efforts to enhance the legislation of folk and ethnic culture protection. The National People's Congress has drafted out law on the protection of traditional and folk culture, which currently is under adjustment, Sun said. China has launched a new project to protect folk and ethnic culture this year, and plans to establish a mature preservation system by 2020. Sun said efforts will be redoubled to enhance collection, conservation and compilation of folk and ethnic culture. Efforts will be made to support and salvage relics and endangered sites with great cultural value, he said.

China will also formulate an overall programme to enlarge budget on cultural protection, stressing reservation of important data on cultural resources and use of modern technologies in this regard, Sun added.

US soldier dies of wounds in Mosul car bomb attack

MOSUL, (IRAQ), 17 Oct — A US soldier died of wounds sustained in a car bomb attack in Iraq's northern city of Mosul, the US military said on Saturday.

It said the military convoy was attacked in an eastern area of Mosul on Friday afternoon.

The soldier's death takes to 832 the number of US military personnel killed in action since last year's US-led invasion. The overall US military death toll in Iraq stands at 1,088.

Luxurious hotel in central Baghdad hit by rocket

BAGHDAD, 17 Oct — A rocket hit a luxurious hotel in central Baghdad that houses of foreign contractors and diplomats early Saturday, witnesses said.

The rocket landed in the parking lot of the Mansour Hotel, a five star hotel on west bank of the Tigris River, smashing nearby windows, but there was no immediate casualties reported.

Saturday was the second day of Ramadan, or Muslim holy fasting month. US and Iraqi authorities had feared that guerrillas could launch massive assaults in name of this traditional occasion.

Rapid eco growth in Shanghai lures more foreigners

SHANGHAI, 17 Oct — Sustained fast economic growth in Shanghai is drawing more and more foreigners to work in this leading industrial and commercial metropolis.

Currently in Shanghai, nearly 33,000 foreigners work in social services, manufacturing, real estate, construction or at Sino-foreign joint ventures and branches of foreign businesses, according to the latest statistics provided by the Shanghai Municipal Labour and Social Security Bureau.

The registered number of foreigners working in Shanghai has been rapidly rising in recent years. The 2002 figure rose 51.1 per cent over that for 2001, and the 2003 figure rose by 28.6 per cent. By the end of September, a total of 11,277 foreigners registered to work in Shanghai, exceeding the total number registered last year.

According to Shanghai's taxation authorities, personal income taxes paid by foreigners reached 1.6 billion yuan (193 million US dollars) in the first half of the year, a year on year rise of 37.9 per cent and accounting for 14.28 per cent of Shanghai's total individual income taxes.

Japan, the United States, South Korea, Singapore, Germany, Malaysia, Canada, France, Australia and Britain are the top 10 countries of origin. Of them, Japan accounts for 33.7, and United States citizens make up 11.5 per cent and South Korean citizens account for 8.7 per cent.

Many of these foreigners have higher educational background. Nearly 90 per cent have college education or more, and 2.5 per cent are post-graduates or postdoctoral.

Samsung electronics net income rises 46.2% in 3rd-quarter of '04

SEOUL, 17 Oct — Samsung Electronics Co, the world's largest manufacturer of computer memory chips, announced on Friday that its third-quarter net income rose 46.2 per cent on rising demand for flash-memory chips.

Net income rose to 2.34 billion US dollars from 1.60 billion US dollars on the year prior, the company said in a statement. Operating profit was up 33.5 per cent to 2.39 billion US dollars from 1.79 billion US dollars, failing to meet analyst expectations.

Sales gained 27.4 per cent to 12.9 billion US dollars from 9.8 billion dollars.

In contrast to the second quarter, net income dropped 14.2 per cent and sales fell 4.2 per cent, Samsung Electronics said. Chi Woo-suk, Samsung Electronics' vice-president of investor relations, said the third-quarter results proved the company remained highly efficient despite unfavourable market conditions.
British Govt ‘tried to kill’ BBC reporter Gilligan

LONDON, 18 Oct — Greg Dyke, former director general of the BBC, has claimed that the government “tried to kill” Andrew Gilligan, the reporter who broke the story that British intelligence had “sexed up” a dossier that sought to justify Britain’s support for US invasion of the country.

“The government tried to kill him,” claimed Dyke about Gilligan, who was forced out of his job at the BBC in January in the wake of the Hutton report that inquired into the death of scientist David Kelly, who was the main source for the British national broadcaster.

“Andrew Gilligan was a guy of 32; like all those Press guys…they’re all a bit odd. It’s the nature of the world they work in. He lives on his own and he’s not the most popular man in the world,” Dyke said at the Cheltenham Festival of Literature in Gloucestershire Saturday night.

“Campbell (Alistair Campbell), the then chief of Communications at 10, Downing Street) hated him. They tried to get him. When he wouldn’t do the deed (a reference to Gilligan apologizing), they basically said to us: ‘right, we are going to throw the whole PR operation of the government against you.’ These are not nice people.

“The reason Kelly’s name came into the public agenda - it was put there at the suggestion of Campbell by people from the Press office in the Ministry of Defence,” he alleged.

“‘Well, we didn’t know it was wrong. If you do that analysis now, Gilligan’s story was right. The BBC board will have to stand up for what it believes in.’

“Dyke said Gilligan made “one key mistake” when he released the story about Gilligan, who was forced out of his job at the BBC in January in the wake of the Hutton report that ‘tried to kill’ Andrew Gilligan, the reporter who broke the story that British intelligence had ‘sexed up’ a dossier that sought to justify Britain’s support for US invasion of the country.

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Ayeyawady dolphins are found in coastal southeast waters throughout southeast Asia as well as the Mekong (Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar) and Mahakam river system (Indonesia). Ayeyawady dolphins that inhabit the Mekong River will soon be officially listed as critically endangered.

It may even be classified as a unique subspecies. A famous conservationist and Researcher, Isabel Beasley, started Mekong dolphin conservation Project, considering that the endangered mammals are the backbone of tourism industry. She said there are no external differences between Mekong dolphin and other Asian Ayeyawady dolphins; testing has indicated unique genetic traits. In October, the World Conservation Union expects to recognize the Mekong Ayeyawady dolphin as critically endangered meaning there are fifty mature dolphins or fewer.

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<tr>
<th>Use Natural Gas Vehicles and save fuel oil</th>
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<td>- In automobiles, natural gas can be used in place of petrol and diesel.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- The use of natural gas can not only save fuel oil but also extend engine life.</td>
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<td>- Natural gas exploited at home can be used effectively and safely.</td>
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<td>- Natural gas burns cent per cent and is environment-friendly.</td>
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<td>- Adequate supply of natural gas helps facilitate passenger and cargo transport.</td>
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Thus why I assumed the next five years is critical in Mekong River. My friend, Mr. Deaploenug who is a chief of Biological Division, Inland Fisheries Research + Development Institute who attended ASEAN-Train the trainer workshop, discussed with me Ayeyawady dolphin at the tea break. This workshop was held at Traders Hotel with the support of ASEAN-Australian Development Cooperation Programme. During the training off, I discussed with Mr. Deaploenug because I would like to know how to help dolphin in Mekong River basin. I want to train a dolphin so that for example, if you show a fish, the dolphin will come and you don’t need to take a boat. I agreed with him. I’m also a Zoologist like him. I have seen the behaviour. In their country:

After gaining the support of fish ponds, domesticated livestock farming as improvement of life style, villages of rural areas pay respect to the new fishing law that bans gill net and other illegal fishing methods. However, it seems like a project considering people are changing their habits from fishing to have to catch fishes in the deep pool near the home that is the largest single population of Mekong dolphins. Like other Kampi residents, fishery official estimate Kratie’s dolphins as a close second to Siem Reap’s Angkor Wat in terms of tourist attraction. They all understand the importance of dolphin’s survival if the village is to flourish. Now the Kratie is of interest to national and international tourists because of the dolphins, but if one day the dolphins may get extinct, then Kampi Village will no longer attract the attention of tourists.

We, both agreed tourism is a good thing for conservation because people can see a benefit from conserving the dolphins. If there has nothing to improve the life of dolphins, the mortality rate will be the same as the past. I thanked my friend for his information but we have found Ayeyawady dolphins in Ayeyawady. The Mekong passes through Tibet where it comes in close proximity with other drainage of southern and Eastern Asia, forming an extraordinary hydrographic features. As the Mekong passes into Cambodia it flows over Khone fall and Mekong finally entered into Cambodia from Laos. Mekong has been a great biogeographical interest for dolphins.

Biological resources are renewable because populations and communities can thrive again but biological resources are vulnerable. We have emphasized that conserving endangered species is to along with conserving its endangered ecosystem and habitat. However it is possible to study the route of migration for processes and events that influences the configuration of river and ultimately the dolphin distribution.

We will train and produce youth of Myanmar to conserve the endangered species and their habitat especially for Ayeyawady dolphins. I would like to present the matter to local NGOs and tourism companies to work for survival of these rare creatures by giving information through the New Light of Myanmar.

There are no external differences between Mekong dolphin and other Asian Ayeyawady dolphins; testing has indicated unique genetic traits. In October, the World Conservation Union expects to recognize the Mekong Ayeyawady dolphin as critically endangered meaning there are fifty mature dolphins or fewer.

An Ayeyawady dolphin in the Ayeyawady River.
Secretary-1 attends opening of…

(from page 1)

carried out for emergence of the multimedia classrooms. Then followed a cash donation ceremony for purchase of teaching aids. The donations included K 6 million by KBZ Bank, K 2 million each by the members of the school boards of trustees (2003-2004 and 2004-2005 academic years) and K 2,819,000 by other wellwishers.

Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt expressed thanks for donation of cash and the ceremony concluded. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Soe Win cordially greeted the members of the school boards of trustees, donors and parents of the students. The Secretary-1 and party posed for a documentary photo together with those present on the occasion and left the school. — MNA

YANGON, 18 Oct—Hailing the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day which falls on 27 March 2005, the Poem Contest Organizing Sub-committee under the Poem and Arts Competition Organizing Work Committee, chaired by Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, announced to hold the Poem Contest to mark the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day. The contestants can present objectives of the 60th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, matters related to fine traditions of the Tatmadaw, historic events occurred in the periods of Konbaung Era (AD 1824), Independence Era (1948-1988) and the State Peace and Development Council, endeavours of the State Peace and Development Council in religious affairs, construction, peace negotiation and drug elimination sectors.

The entries will be scrutinized with three sections—theme style of presentation and composing. The poem contest will be divided into two categories. Those who won first second or third prizes in the Poem Contest to mark the Armed Forces Day and the National Motto Contest, Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Contest and the poem contest of the Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award Contest and National Literary Award winners may participate in the level-1 and those who did not win the prizes may take part in the level-2. Those who did not win the prizes can participate in the level-1. However, one contestant may take part in one level only, and the level number must be written on the entry. There will be two events at the level-1—the long poem and the short poem. The contestant can participate in both or one of them. However, it must be one entry for one event. The short poem must be between 100 and 300 stanzas and the long one between 1,000 and 2,000 stanzas. The entries must be in line with the rules. The free verse and modern poems will not be accepted.

The poem must be written on one side of paper and the two copies of the entry must be submitted. And, the entry must be attached with name of the contestant, pen-name, names of parents, education, occupation and address together with three 2" x 2.5" size colour photos. The entry must be own creation and has not featured in any book yet. The State has authority to use the prize-winning works. The entries are to be sent to Lt-Col Ohn Maung (Retd) (Myinnu Maung Naing Moe), Chief Editor, Naingngan Gonyi Literary House, Sarpay Beikman, 531, Merchant Street, here, Tel: 374532, not later than 31-1-2005.— MNA

Plate 1

Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung and judges watch the Ramayana Drama contest.—MNA

Ramayana Drama Contest continues

YANGON, 18 Oct—The Ramayana Drama Contest of the 12th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the fourth day at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street in Dagon Township here this evening. Ramayana Drama Troupe representing Mandalay Division participated in the contest.

Present at the contest were member of the Panel of Patrons for organizing the performing arts competitions Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee for organizing the performing arts competitions Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, Leading Committee member, members of the work committee and sub-committees, artistes and the public. Leader of the Panel of Judges U Chit Oo Nyo and members supervised the contest.

Minister Maj-Gen Kyi Aung and judges watch the Ramayana Drama contest.—MNA

Sagaing Division will take part in the contest tomorrow. —MNA

Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt and SBT Chairman U Soe Myint formally open the multimedia classrooms.—MNA