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

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

YANGON Command wins 21st Defence Services C-in-C’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament U-21

Secretary-1 presents trophy to Yangon Command

YANGON, 11 Oct — Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman of Tatmadaw Sports and Physical Education Administration Board Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Thein Sein watched the final match of the 21st Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament Under 21 at the youth training centre in Thuwunna this evening.

Present were directors of Directorates of the Ministry of Defence, military attachés, officials of the Ministry of Sports, guests, Tatmadaw members and families and football fans.

Yangon Command beat Tatmadaw (Navy) 1-0 at the final.

Brig-Gen Zin Yaw of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Air) presented prizes to players of No 55 LID and Tatmadaw (Navy) which stood third and second respectively.

Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe presented award for fair play to Yangon Command. Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyan Tun also presented prizes to players of Yangon Command individually.

Next, on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, the Secretary-1 presented the trophy to Yangon Command team.

MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein watches the final match of Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament. — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein presents the trophy to Yangon Command U-21 team that wins 21st Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament. — MNA
Thursday, 12 October, 2005

Grow new items of crops to earn more foreign exchange

Increased agricultural production plays a pivotal role in enhancing the socio-economic status of the people and therefore the government is taking all the necessary steps and rendering assistance to farmers to boost the production of the agricultural sector.

It calls for adequate water supply, agricultural technologies and extension of cultivated acreage to boost the production of the agricultural sector. There are 25 million acres of farmland in the whole nation and there are still vast areas of arable virgin and vacant land. Efforts are being made to boost the production of the agricultural sector not only increasing the production of the current cultivated acreage but also by extending the cultivated acreage.

With the assistance of the government, the farmers are essaying to meet the targeted yield of the ten major crops. In an attempt to boost the per-acre yield and to increase the cultivated acreage, large areas of land are being reclaimed and national entrepreneurs are being invited to work on the newly-reclaimed farmland.

The government is also providing assistance to farmers in order that they can grow marketable crops more and more. For example, in Magway region, Pakokku plains and Bagan-NyaungU region, onion is being cultivated on farmland on both sides of the canals of the already-built dams. The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is providing agricultural technologies, quality seeds and pesticides to the farmers.

Now that the national entrepreneurs are in a position to enhance the agricultural economy, they are required to grow not only seasonal crops but also such perennials as rubber and oil palm on the farmland they are allowed to work on. There is always a good demand for agricultural produce, especially rubber and palm oil, in the world market. Therefore, the government is encouraging the extended cultivation of rubber and oil palm.

Now the nation is not only sufficient in agricultural produce but also able to export the surplus. Last year, mango and onion were exported and a considerable amount of foreign exchange was earned.

Therefore, we would like to call on farmers to extend the cultivation of new items of crops to earn more foreign exchange.

Ministry of Finance and Revenue holds work coordination meeting

Yangon, 10 Oct — The third work coordination meeting for 2005 of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue took place at the meeting hall of the ministry in Yankin Township here this morning with an address by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Tun Thein, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the ministry, departmental heads, supervening engineers from states and divisions and project engineers.

Addressing the meeting, the minister said those responsible officials are to take measures for construction and renovation tasks with accelerated momentum as the open season is setting in. He added engineers are to supervise the work for maintaining the roads and bridges by applying their technical knowledge. Only then will it benefit the State as well as their department. Systematic measures also need to be taken for minimizing loss and wastage. Steps will be taken step by step to upgrade earth roads to gravel ones and then tar ones. Officials are to use quality materials in building bridges, urged the minister.

Later, supervening engineers reported on conditions of construction projects, supply and use of funds and fuel to the minister, who then gave necessary instructions. — MNA

I & P Deputy Minister back from Geneva

Yangon, 10 Oct — The delegation led by Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Aung yesterday evening arrived back here after attending the 56th UNHCR Executive Committee Meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland.

Minister for Immigration and Population Maj-Gen Sein Htoo welcomed the delegation at the Yangon International Airport.

Director General of the Immigration and National Registration Department U Maung Maung Than and Director U Khin Soe also arrived back on the same flight.

Deputy Minister U Maung Aung and party being welcomed back at the airport. — MNA
Malaysia to send rescue team to Pakistan

KUALA LUMPUR, 10 Oct — The Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) will send a team to Pakistan to assist earthquake victims, local media reported on Sunday.

MRCS Chairman Nordin Abdul Razak said the 12-member team, consisting of four doctors and eight relief workers, is expected to leave for Pakistan late Sunday.

MRCS sources said the Malaysian team will be joined by the Red Crescent teams of Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, and Indonesia in Pakistan.

The MRCS also urged Malaysians to donate to help the victims. — MNA/Xinhua

Poll shows fading support for Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 11 Oct — Public support for US involvement in Iraq continues to fall. By two to one, Americans reject financing the war through an increased federal deficit, and 62% would finance paying for the rebuilding of the Gulf Coast by cutting spending in Iraq.

More than half of Americans think Iraq is not secure enough to hold its constitutional referendum in just under a week, and many doubt that country will ever become a stable democracy.

Public opinion is now fairly solidly against the war in Iraq. More than half of Americans — 55%— think the US should have stayed out of Iraq (the highest figure to date), while 41% think taking military action there was the right thing to do. As the war began, Americans overwhelmingly approved of US action against Iraq; 69% said the US did the right thing in taking military action (the highest level of support in polls for the war). Support for the war waned in 2004. In addition, almost two thirds of Americans think the result of the war with Iraq wasn’t worth the loss of American life and other costs; 32% think it was.

In previous polls, adding Saddam Hussein’s name to the question has caused opinion toward the war to become more favourable. That isn’t the case in this poll. Now, the percentage that says removing Saddam Hussein from power was worth the costs has fallen to 34% — nearly the same percentage that says the result of the war was worth the cost. Most Americans also would like to see US troops out of Iraq as soon as possible. New, 59% want US troops to leave, up from 52% last month and 40% earlier this year. Only 36% think troops should stay in Iraq as long as it takes for as long as it takes, while 73% of Democrats want US troops out as soon as possible. 62% of independents also want US troops to leave. It is noteworthy, however, that 36% of Conservatives, and 45% of Republicans, would like to see US troops out of Iraq.

Internet

Bangkok on standby for possible flood

BANGKOK, 10 Oct — Despite having confidence that the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) officials can fend off both tides and floods, Bangkok Governor Apirak Kosayodhin has ordered additional sandbags and flood relief officials to be on a standby on Sunday.

Speaking after inspecting preparations made by BMA officials to battle possible flooding in Bangkok as a result of the expected seasonal seawater surge, Apirak said the water level in key canals in the capital had been lowered by between 50-100 centimetres the level of the seawater while 2.3 million sandbags had been raised to a height of 2.1 metres alongside the Chao Phraya River and several canals.

According to the Thai News Agency, an additional 300,000 sandbags have been kept on reserve and they will be used for raising embankments’ height by another five centimetres if necessary. — MNA/Xinhua

Militant group kills two Iraqi guards

DUBAI, 10 Oct — Islamic militant group Army of Ansar al-Sunna said it shot dead two Iraqis abducted while guarding oil facilities, according to a video posted on the Internet on Sunday.

The two hostages, one of whom had bruises on his face, were questioned about their jobs before being taken outdoors and shot. The video, whose authenticity could not be verified immediately, was dated 6 October. “This is the confession of two members of the (national guards) who protect oil facilities, whose revenues and funds use to finance their operation in Iraq,” the group said in an accompanying statement. The group said it had abducted the two men during clashes on Thursday with security guards at oil facilities in the northern city of Kirkuk, adding that its fighters had killed 10 others. Guerrillas have assaulted oil officials and sabotage crude pipelines as part of a campaign aimed at toppling the US-backed Iraqi Government. Army of Ansar al-Sunna, one of the main jihadist groups in Iraq, has claimed responsibility for attacks against US forces and the Iraqi Government and killed several hundred Americans.

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Roadside bomb kills US soldier in western Iraq

BAGHDAD, 10 Oct — A roadside bomb killed a US Marine during a US-Iraqi military offensive in western Iraq, the US military said on Sunday. The Marine, assigned to the 2nd Marine Division of the Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), was killed on Saturday in the city of Ramadi, some 110 kilometres west of Baghdad, the military said in a statement. About 500 US Marines and 400 Iraqi troops were conducting an offensive, called Operation Mountainier aimed at guerrillas before Iraq’s 15 October constitutional referendum, the statement said.

The name of the victim was being withheld pending notification of next of kin, it said. About 1,950 US servicemen have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003. — MNA/Xinhua

Hu sends condolences to Indian counterpart over deadly quake

BEIJING, 10 Oct — Chinese President Hu Jintao on Sunday sent a message of condolences to his Indian counterpart Abdul Kalam on the massiv earthquake that caused heavy casualties and destructions in the South Asian country.

Hu, on behalf of the Chinese Government and people and in his own name, offered condolences to the victims’ families and the injured, and expressed deep grief over those who were killed in the disaster.

On the same day, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing also extended condolences to Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Foreign Minister Natwar Singh respectively over the deadly earthquake which hit the South Asia region on Saturday morning.

Some 300 people, including 36 Indian troops, have been reportedly killed in the Indian-controlled Kashmir, while another 900 are said to be undergoing medical treatment in various hospitals.

The epicentre of the earthquake, measured 7.6 on the Richter Scale, was located in Muzaffarabad, 95 kilometres north of Islamabad and 115 kilometres northwest of Srinagar, the summer capital of Indian-controlled Kashmir.

Internet

Rescue workers search for bodies in Balakot on 10 Oct, 2005. Rescuers struggled on Monday through the shattered ruins of the Pakistani city worst hit by the weekend earthquake but in most cases they were searching for bodies, not survivors. —INTERNET

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The name of the victim was being withheld pending notification of next of kin, it said. About 1,950 US servicemen have been killed in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003. — MNA/Xinhua
Russian submarine successfully test-launches ICBM

MOSCOW, 10 Oct.— A training intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) has been successfully launched by a Russian nuclear submarine in the northern Barents Sea early on Saturday, the ITAR-TASS news agency reported.

The submarine, Borisoglebsk, test-fired a nuclear strategic missile cruiser in the Barents Sea at 01:30 Moscow Time on Saturday (2130 GMT Friday), the Defence Ministry said.

The test of an RSM-54 missile was to assess the possibility of extending the service life of such missiles, the ministry said.

The warhead of the ICBM travelled more than 6,000 kilometres and successfully hit the target at the Kura training range in the far-east Kamchatka, according to Navy spokesman Igor Dygalo.

Navy Commander-in-Chief Admiral Vladimir Masorin said the launch "confirmed the high degree of readiness of the naval strategic nuclear forces and the reliability of the Navy control system".

This is the sixth sea-based ICBM launch this year, the ministry said. Borisoglebsk is a Project 667BDRM submarine, whose public name is Dolphin. Seven such submarines armed with 16 RSM-54 ICBMs have been built since 1981.

The 167-metre-long submarine with 140 crew aboard can submerge to a maximum depth of 650 metres, the ITAR-TASS said.

China ships first batch of relief to quake-hit areas in Pakistan

BEIJING, 10 Oct.— China shipped its first batch of relief materials to earthquake-hit areas in Pakistan on Sunday noon, according to China's Ministry of Commerce.

This batch of relief is a part of China's humanitarian aids to Pakistan including 6.2 million US dollars worth of relief materials and funds.

The Chinese Government sent a 49-member international rescue team to earthquake-hit areas in Pakistan for humanitarian aid.

An earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter Scale hit Pakistan at 11:50 am on Saturday (Beijing Time). The epicentre was located about 95 kilometres northeast to Islamabad, capital of Pakistan.

The earthquake, believed the strongest ever occurred since the founding of Pakistan, caused destruction of different extents to central and northern parts of Pakistan.

The quake has killed over 19,000 people and injured 40,000 others, Pakistani military spokesman said on Sunday.— MNA/Xinhua

Pre-vote bombers strike Iraq, dozens dead

BAGHDAD, 11 Oct.— Two car bombs killed dozens of Iraqis on Tuesday, four days before a referendum on a constitution that has divided the nation along sectarian lines. A suicide car bomber hit Iraqi soldiers in a part of Baghdad where Sunni Arab guerrillas have been active and killed five including two civilians, the Interior Ministry said. Initial police reports indicated at least 25 people were killed, though emergency teams were prevented from reaching all the casualties because of the threat from guerrillas.

In Tal Afar, a town in the northwest near the Syrian border that was the target of a major Iraqi and U.S. offensive against guerrillas last month, a suicide car bomb exploded in a market, killing at least 30 people and wounding 45 police said.— MNA/Reuters

Death toll rises for US reservists in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 11 Oct.— The National Guard and Reserves are suffering a strikingly higher share of US casualties in Iraq, their portion of total American military deaths nearly doubling since last year.

The trend accelerated this year. For the first nine months of 2005 reservists accounted for 36% of US deaths, and for August and September it was 56%, according to Pentagon figures.

The Army National Guard, Army Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve accounted for more than half of all US deaths in August and in September — the first time that has happened in consecutive months. The only other month in which it even approached 50% was June 2004.

Car bomb kills two in southern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 10 Oct.— A car bomb went off on Sunday outside a house used by an Iraqi Shiite militia in the southern city of Basra, killing two people and wounding three others, an Interior Ministry source said.

"A booby-trapped car exploded at about 7:30 am (0430 GMT) outside a three-storied building in central Basra. The building houses members of the Badr organization," the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

"The blast killed two people, including a child, and wounded three others," the source said.

The attack came as tensions rise among the rival Shiite factions as well as between Shiites and the British troops in Basra, some 550 kilometres south of Baghdad.— MNA/Xinhua

Italy and five US hostages

PARIS, 10 Oct.— French police briefly evacuated tourists from the Eiffel Tower on Sunday following an anonymous bomb threat that proved to be a false alarm, police said.

A spokesman for Paris police said the famous landmark was evacuated around 1330 GMT after a caller said there was a bomb. The public was allowed back some 90 minutes later.

It was not immediately clear how many people had been on the 324-metre (1,063-feet) structure at the time of the alert.

Around six million people a year climb the Eiffel Tower, a symbol of the French capital that was built in 1889 for the International Exhibition of Paris commemorating the centenary of the French Revolution.

The tower weighs 10,100 tons and was the world's largest building until 1930. — MNA/Reuters
Beijing makes emergency plan against winter air pollution

Beijing, 10 Oct—The Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau has made an emergency plan to prevent heavy air pollution in Beijing’s winter, said Vice-Director Du Shaozhong here on Sunday.

The plan was made after wide consultations with government departments and companies and it will be launched when there emerges heavy air pollution for two consecutive days.

According to the plan, the government will organize special street cleaning and sprinkling work when it is in effect and factories with huge pollutant emission will be ordered to reduce their production. As of Sunday, Beijing has seen 190 days with blue sky this year, eight days more than the same period last year.

But Du said “Viewing from the weather changing trend in Beijing’s past few winters, the situation is not very promising.”

He said air pollution in Beijing is growing increasingly complex and the emergency plan is important to cope with the plight.

The official said the bureau will pay special attention to curbing smoke pollution from burning coal for heating use in the winter.— MNA/Xinhua

Thaksin to file second libel suit against media group

Bangkok, 10 Oct—Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra will file two more libel suits against a company owned by the family of media tycoon Sondhi Limthongkul, demanding another 500 million baht (12 million US dollars) in compensation, his lawyer said on Monday.

The criminal and civil libel cases would be filed on Tuesday against Manager Media Group PCL and the publisher of the Phothisan newspaper for a defamatory report quoting an influential Buddhist monk who criticized Thaksin.

“They published distorted facts so we are suing them for defaming the Prime Minister,” Thaksin’s chief lawyer Thana Benjakthal told Reuters.

Last month, Thaksin filed two libel suits against Sondhi — once a staunch supporter of the Prime Minister — his co-host and his production house for slander and perjury.

The suits are likely to be among the current affairs shows aired on state-run Channel 9 on 9 September.—MNA/Reuters

UN 60th anniversary concert raises funds for malaria

Geneva, 10 Oct—Youssou N’Dour, Neneh Cherry and Peter Gabriel were among musicians from five continents whose weekend concert for the UN’s 60th anniversary raised funds to combat malaria, which kills an African child every 30 seconds.

Blending voices, languages and cultures, Brazil’s Gilberto Gil, Bel-gian’s soul queen Axelle Red and Indonesia’s Anggun took the stage to boost awareness of the scourge.

The sold-out “United for Malaria” event, held at the Geneva Arena, raised enough funds to buy 50,000 insecticide-treated bednets for two coastal areas of Tanzania with high child mortality rates from malaria, UN officials announced.

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, making a surprise appearance near midnight on Saturday, thanked all the musicians for “putting their energy and talent in the service of this cause”.

“Malaria can be beaten, the means exist. Together we can change the world and prolong the vast movement of solidarity reflected in this evening’s concert,” Annan told the cheering crowd of some 8,000.

The mosquito-borne disease strikes up to 500 million people a year, killing two to three million, 90 per cent of them in Africa. Some 3,000 children die each day from malaria worldwide, according to the UN, which aims to halve the toll by 2010.

“We want to draw attention to this tragedy. We are going to continue this programme to eradicate the scourge,” declared Senegal’s Youssou N’Dour, who organized the “Africa Live” anti-malaria concert in his home town of Dakar last March.

MNA/Reuters

At least 30 Iraqis killed by car bomb in N Iraq

Baghdad, 11 Oct—At least 30 Iraqis were killed and over 30 others wounded on Tuesday when a car bomb hit a market in the northern Iraqi town of Tal Afar near the Syrian border, police said.

The bomb was detonated by remote control at about 11 am (0800 GMT) and the massive explosion ratted the busy marketplace in the town, some 390 km north of Baghdad and 100 km from Syria.

The US military believed Tal Afar had long been a haven for foreign guerrillas infiltrating into Iraq through the Syrian border.

Several offensives have been launched to rid the region of guerrillas.

Violence has surged in the run-up to the 15 Oct referendum on a draft constitution, which has torn the war-ravaged country further apart along sectarian lines.

Shiites and Kurds, who have dominated the government since its formation in April, are two major lines against the document and vowed to veto it in the referendum.

Internet

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be softened whenever flattered
* Do not be bolstered whenever appeared
UN officials highlight plight of elderly worldwide

NEW YORK, 10 Oct — Observing that 10 per cent of the elderly worldwide live on less than one dollar per day and 80 per cent do not have a regular income, the United Nations has asked civil society groups to mount pressure on governments to give priority to the needs of this growing population group.

Addressing representatives of around 400 non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) here Saturday, UN General Assem-
bly President Jan Eliasson called for “solidarity be-
tween generations to re-move artificial borderlines between young and old, North and South.”

Speaking on the oc-
casion, UN Assistant Secretary General Jomo Kwame Sundaram warned that the number of elderly people in the world is all set to quadruple by 2050 and if something is not done to help them, poverty will still at a commensurate rate. Analysing current trends, he said many tra-
ditional support mecha-
nisms, like the extended family, have eroded, leav-
ing large numbers of grandparents vulnerable. Compounding these pres-
sures, grandparents are now increasingly caring for their grandchildren.

In Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa, over 60 per cent of all orphans are taken in by grandparents who generally receive no state assistance to cope with the added economic burden, he said. While many antipoverty schemes target specific population groups, Sundaram said, “older women and older men largely remain invisible to many policy makers and development agen-
cies.”

— MNA/PTI

Over 3 mln Chinese travel by air during Golden Week holiday

BEIJING, 10 Oct — More than three million Chinese travelled by planes during the week-long National Day holiday, which ended on Friday, according to a report with the General Administration of Civil Aviation of China (CAAC) told Xinhua on Saturday.

From 1 to 7 October, CAAC dis-
patched 26,459 domestic flights carry-
ing 3.03 million travellers, up 6.8 per cent and 17.5 per cent year-on-year, respectively, statistics from CAAC showed.

On 1 October, the National Day, alone, CAAC dispatched a record 3,423 flights. The airports in Beijing, Shang-
hai and Guangzhou handled a total of 971,000 passengers, 160,000 more than in the same period of last year, the offi-
cial said.

China now has three “Golden Week” holidays — Spring Festival, Interna-
tional Labour Day, and National Day. The holiday scheme, initiated by the Chinese Government in 1999, aims to boost domestic demand, stimulate con-
sumption, and restructure the economy.

As the prolonged holidays have turned out to be “golden” for the economy, they have become known as “Golden Weeks”.

— MNA/Xinhua

US prepared to cut its farm subsidies by 60%

WASHINGTON, 10 Oct — The United States is prepared to cut its most trade-distorting farm subsidies by 60 per cent in the next five years and eventually eliminate them but wants deeper cuts by the European Union and Japan, US Trade Representative Rob Portman said on Sunday.

Striking a deal to cut rich nations’ agricultural supports and tariffs is seen as vital if world trade talks are to make progress in lowering barriers on goods and services globally and agree on a blueprint for doing so at a World Trade Organization meeting in Hong Kong in December.

Washington has been under pressure for weeks to come forward with a plan but US negotiators have been loathe to move without more progress on how much other countries would cut their farm tar-
iffs to open their markets to American farmers.

In an opinion piece to be published in the Finan-
cial Times on Monday, Portman said the United States wanted to see steep tariff cuts during the next five years, starting from 55 per cent up to 90 per cent in the highest tariffs in rich countries. In a second stage, tariffs should be brought down to zero, he said in the article, the text of which was obtained by Reuters in advance of pub-
lication.

Portman and other American trade officials will host a meeting on Monday in Zurich of their counterparts from the Eu-
ropean Union, Brazil, In-
dia and a dozen other key World Trade Organiza-
tion members.

“A ground-breaking result in agriculture is not in and of itself a suffi-
cient outcome,” Portman said. “There must also be complementary advances in trade in manufactured goods and services. The US is ready to make tough decisions on agriculture but we cannot do it alone.”

The United States also will urge the elimination of export subsidies al-
ready agreed under a framework agreement struck last year — by 2010, Portman said.

— MNA/Reuters

US to move Marine HQs from Okinawa to Guam

Okinawa prefecture to Guam from Camp Courtney in Okinawa, the USMC has agreed in principle on the relocation of US troops and facilities in Japan, including mov-
ing the headquarters of a Marine force in Okinawa to Guam, a Japanese news-
paper reported on Sun-
day.

Under the agreement, the headquarters of the US Marine Corps’ III Marine Expeditionary Force will be moved to Guam from Camp Courteny in Okinawa, the Yomiuri Shimbun quoted sources as saying. More than 4,000 Marines and other concerned people are currently stationed at Camp Courteny.

The US side conceded to the relocation on the condition that Japan shoulders the costs of con-
structing housing and other facilities for the command in Guam.

The two sides also would cut the number of Marines present of about 18,000 troops by 3,000 to 5,000, the report said.

— MNA/Xinhua

Quake result of sub-continent moving northward

Islamabad, 10 Oct — The devastating earthquake which struck Pakistan and PoK was a direct result of the Indian subcontinent’s shift towards the north and its collision with the Eurasian continent, the US Geological Survey Sunday said.

Earthquakes and active faults in northern Pakistan and adjacent parts of India and Afghanistan were the direct result of the Indian subcontinent mov-
ing northward at a rate of about 40 millimetres per year and colliding with the Eurasian continent, USGS said in its report on Saturday’s quake which killed thousands in Pakistan, Jammu and Kashmir in India and Afghanistan.

This collision is causing upliftment that produces the highest mountain peaks in the world, including the Himalayan, Karakoram, Pamir and Hindu Kush ranges.

As the Indian plate moves northward, it is being pushed beneath the Eurasian plate, the USGS said.

Much of the compressional motion between these two colliding plates has been and continues to be accommodated by a slip on a suite of major thrust faults that are at the Earth’s surface in the foothills of the mountains and dip north-
ward beneath the ranges, it said.

“These thrust faults have a sinusous trace as they arc are the foothills in northern India and into northern Paki-
stan,” Pakistan’s APP news agency quoted USGS as saying.

— MNA/PTI

US prepares to cut its farm subsidies by 60%
Joint efforts pledged to combat global bird flu threat

BANGKOK, 11 Oct — Thailand, the United States and the World Health Organization (WHO) on Monday agreed to join hands in combating the looming influenza and avian flu outbreak that will raise havoc at a global level, the Thai News Agency reported.

At the meeting on International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza (IPAPI) here, top public health officials from Thailand, the United States and leading international organizations discussed joint measures to prevent the influenza and bird flu and agreed to form a network to fight the epidemics.

According to the WHO, once the H5N1 virus that causes bird flu mutates, over one billion people around the world could be affected, poten-
tially killing up to seven million people. It will also inflict a loss of 30 billion US dollars to the world economy.

Wook said every country should prepare itself for the influenza outbreak.

“avian influenza will hurt the world more than SARS, so there is every need for surveillance, early warning and prevention against the mutation of the H5N1 virus,” he quoted as saying. US Secretary for Health and Human Services Michael Leavitt said the United States wants to see joint action from all countries in building a prevention network, in particular, prevention of animal-to-
human transmission and human-to-human trans-
mision.

He also pledged full support for Thai-
land’s undertaking in this area.

Thailand’s Public Health Minister Suchai Charoenratnakul reiterated the country’s readiness to host the regional stock of anti-influenza virus medicine.

Since late 2003, bird flu epidemic has been discovered in 10 Asian countries, resulting in the deaths of more than 60 people.

Besides, the H5N1 virus is expected to ag-
gravate the global influenza outbreak, which occurs once every 10-50 years.

MNA/Xinhua

Amazon rainforest suffers worst drought in decades

MANAQUIR (Brazil), 11 Oct— The worst drought in more than 40 years is damaging the world’s biggest rainforest, plauging the Amazon basin with wildfires, sickening river dwellers with tainted drinking water, and killing fish by the millions as streams dry up.

“What’s awful for us is that all these fish have died and when the water returns there will barely be any more,” Donisvaldo Mendonca da Silva, a 33-year-old fisherman, said.

Nearby, scores of piranhas shook in spasms in two inches of water — what was left of the once flowing Parana de Manaquiri River, an Amazon tributary. Thousands of rotting fish lined its dry banks.

The governor of Amazonas, a state the size of Alaska, has declared 16 municipalities in crisis as the two-month-long drought strains river dwellers who cannot find food or sell crops.

Some scientists blame higher ocean temperatures stemming from global warming, which have also been linked to a recent string of unusually deadly hurricanes in the United States and Central America.

Rising air in the north Atlantic, which fuels storms, may have caused air above the Amazon to descend and prevented cloud formation and rainfall, according to some scientists.

“If the warming of the north Atlantic is the smoking gun, it really shows how the world is changing,” said Dan Nepstad, an ecologist from the Massachusetts-based Woods Hole Research Institute, funded by the US government and private grants.

“The Amazon is a canary in a coal mine for the earth. As we enter a warming trend we are in uncertain territory,” he said.

Deforestation may also have contributed to the drought because cut-
ting down trees cuts moisture in the air, in-
creasing sunlight penetra-
tion onto land.

Other scientists say severe droughts were normal and occurred in cycles before global warming started.

In the main river port of Manaus, dozens of boats lay stranded in the cracked dirt of the riverbank after the water level receded. Pontoons of floating docks sit exposed on dry land. People drive cars where only months ago they swam.

MNA/Reuters

Youth underneath rubbles rescued after 36 hours in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 11 Oct — A young man was rescued alive on Sunday evening from underneath the rubbles of a ten-storey building 36 hours after a strong earthquake tore down the tower of over ten storeys on Saturday morning.

As Ubaid, 20, was brought out unschathed from the mountain of rubbles by the rescue team, friends and relatives of people trapped under the debris of Margalla Towers in Islamabad suddenly had something to cheer about, according to local Press reports.

Their already wan-
hoping hopes of retrieval of their relatives still lying buried in rubble.

There was outburst of joy coupled with several rounds of loud applause by hundreds of people present at the site.

Earlier, a boy of 15 was also retrieved from under the debris after 27 hours of the incident.

MNA/Xinhua

Guatemala villagers lose hope for mudslide victims

PANAJAI (Guatemala), 11 Oct — Maya Indian villagers gave up hope on Monday of finding up to 1,400 victims buried under a huge mudslide triggered by Hurricane Stan, even as sniffer dogs led a final, almost certainly futile search for miracle survivors.

More than a dozen vultures circulated over the huge lake of mud that wiped out the village of Panabaj five days ago and firefighters woke up in their tents some 36 hours after they had been dropped by helicopter.

A team of sniffer dogs were flown in from San Salvador in the nearby capital, but they found no trace of the people who went missing.

“With no trace of anyone here there is no need to look for them,” the Guatemalan police commander in charge of the operation, said.

MNA/Reuters

Boy, 9, swims from Alcatraz to aid “Katrina” victims

SAN FRANCISCO, 11 Oct — A 9-year-old California boy swam to San Francisco from Alcatraz Island on Monday, becoming the youngest person to complete the 1.4-mile swim in San Francisco Bay.

Johnny Wilson of Hillsborough, California, raised about 30,000 US dollars for victims of Hurricane Katrina with his grueling swim. He had trained for it in San Francisco Bay’s chilly waters but faced ripped rough winds and choppy waters on Monday. “It was a lot harder,” Wilson said. “It was a lot wavier.”

The young person before Wilson to have completed the swim to San Francisco from Alcatraz Island, once home to one of the most notorious US prisons, was a 10-year-old girl, who accomplished the feat a few weeks ago.

The prison was built on the island because the strong currents and cold waters made escapes risky. Two prisoners drowned in escape attempts and five other escapees were unaccounted for before the facility was closed in 1963.

MNA/Reuters

Members of the media surround British artist Rachel Whiteread as her new installation ‘The Unilever Series: Rachel Whiteread’ is unveiled in the Turbine Hall at the Tate Modern art gallery in London on 10 Oct, 2005. — INTERNET

Redwoodian villagers carry a dogout canoe to higher ground so that it won’t get washed away by flash floods in the swamped streets of Dolores Apulo, on the shore of Lake Huapango, El Salvador on 9 Oct, 2005. — INTERNET

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ers woke up in their thick stench coming from it.

A Spanish search and rescue team used sniffer dogs to look for survivors but they held out very little hope. “I
don’t think there is any hope of finding anyone alive, but we are going to try,” said Spanish Fredcisco Tole-dano.

MNA/Reuters

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Industry-1 Minister leaves for KL

YANGON, 11 Oct—
At the invitation of Tan Sri Musa Hitam, Eminent Person of Malaysia, a Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and partly left here by air this morning to attend the 2nd Meeting of The ASEAN-China Eminent Person’s Group, to be held on 12 and 13 October in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The delegation was seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Rail Trans-

Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung being seen off by officials before departure for Malaysia. —MNA

Journal of Myanmar Civil Service Vol 3 No 1 comes out

YANGON, 11 Oct—
Civil Service Selection and Training Board has published Journal of Myanmar Civil Service Vol 3 No 1. It depicts comprehensive personnel affairs, an article written by Dr Than Nyun, Chairman of the CSSTB, facts about personnel affairs at home and abroad and ASEAN Human Resources Centres and other interesting articles by members of CSSTB, directors-general, rectors and scholars.

Those wishing to buy the journal can contact Civil Service Selection and Training Department, Strand Road, Yangon (Ph 378329).

MNA

Artistes from States and Divisions arrive

YANGON, 11 Oct —
The artistes who will take part in the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Art Competitions arrived here yesterday. They are 35 from Kayin State, 177 from Ayeyawady Division, 44 from Yangon Division and 100 from Bago Division.

They were accommodated at No 1 Transit Centre (Bayintnaung) by officials of the Reception and Accommodation Sub-committee.

YANGON, 11 Oct—
Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han, Secretary U Maung Pu and officials on 30 September inspected No 1 Water Treatment Plant at Katkayawgye in Mandalay Division, sanitation tasks along Strand Road from Shangalaykyun to Shwege, and tasks for maintenance of Katkyaw Sluice Gate. On 3 October, he viewed the unblocking of drains along 66th Street and gave instructions on beautifying the city. —MNA

Cultivation of 50,000 acres of onions coordinated

YANGON, 11 Oct—
A coordination meeting on cultivation of 50,000 acres of onions in accord with the guidance of the Head of State was held at the Ministry of Commerce yesterday.

Present were Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Tun, Managing Director of Myanma Agricultural Produce Trading U Min Hla Aung, President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Myint, Chairman of Crop Growers Association U Win Aung and entrepreneurs.

In his speech, Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein said onion was to be cultivated in vacant lands in states and divisions in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. Onion was in good demand in foreign markets. Cultivation of onion contributes towards regional development and it also benefits growers, he said.

He said any entrepreneurs in states and divisions may contact the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and the Ministry of Commerce and the respective State and Division Peace and Development Councils would also provide assistance to them.

President of UMFCCI U Win Myint and Chairman of Crop Growers Association U Win Aung explained functions and procedures for cultivation. Entrepreneurs and officials took part in the discussions.

Inquiry can be made at UMFCCI (phone 243151), Crop Growers Association (phone 503515) or MAPT (250221). —MNA

Sprucings up of Mandalay City inspected

YANGON, 11 Oct—
A ceremony to offer ‘soon’, light, water, joss-sticks and candy to be offered

YANGON, 11 Oct—
A ceremony to offer ‘soon’, light, water, joss-sticks and candy organized by Buddha Pujiyana Light (9900) Offering Association (Insein) will be held in Inlay Phaung-daw U Buddha Image Chamber in Shan State on December school holidays.

Those who sold voting tickets of the association and winners of Buddha statuette prizes will be taken there free of charge. Those who wish to participate in the feast are to contact the association’s office in Insein Township. Well-wishers are to contact U Soe Min (Singu Soe Min) Tel 01-640487, U Bo Kyi (Dr Bothanmani-Taung-dwngyi) Tel 01-640489, U Sai Phone Htoo (Sai Phone Htoo Photo Studio) Tel 01-292644 or 294606 for donations.

Minister Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein addresses coord meeting for cultivation of onion. —MNA

A ceremony to offer ‘soon’, light, water, joss-sticks and candy organized by Buddha Pujiyana Light (9900) Offering Association (Insein) will be held in Inlay Phaung-daw U Buddha Image Chamber in Shan State on December school holidays.

MDCC Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han inspects maintenance of eight-lane circular road in Mandalay. —MNA

‘Soon’, light, water, joss-sticks and candy to be offered

Surroundings of Mandalay City inspected
Malaysian FM concludes visit

YANGON, 11 Oct — After paying an official visit to the invitation of U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, Malaysian goodwill delegation led by Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar bin Syed Jaaffer Albar, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia and wife left here by air this morning.

They were seen off at the Yangon International airport by U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs and wife, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Rizany Irwan Bin Muhamad Mazin, Charge d' Affaires ai of the Malaysian Embassy in Yangon. Malaysian Foreign Minister and party yesterday called on Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win received and yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife hosted a dinner in honour of Malaysian Delegation at Traders Hotel yesterday evening.— MNA

C-in-C (Air)’s C’ship shield volleyball tourney commences

YANGON, 11 Oct — The 2005 Commander-in-Chief (Air)’s Championship Shield Volleyball Tournament commenced at the district gymnasium in Meiktila yesterday morning.

It was attended by Commander of Flying Training Base Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin, Commander of local station Col Soe Win, senior military officers, Commander of Ground Training Base Col Thura Khin Maung Win, officers and other ranks, local authorities and guests.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Air), Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tin delivered an introductory address and opened the tournament.

Next, the opening matches were held.— MNA

Chairman of Work Committee for MTCPAC holds coord meeting with judges of central, state and division levels

No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint Hsan addresses the coord meeting for holding Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions. — MNA

YANGON, 11 Oct — A coordination meeting with Chairman of Work Committee for Organizing the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions and judges of central, state and division levels was held at Padonma Theatre in Sanyoung Township this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Work Committee for Organizing Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions No 3 Military Region Commander Col Tint Hsan, Chairman of Subcommittee for Holding the Competitions Director-General of Fine Arts Department U Ngwe Tun and members, artists, chairman of panel of judges and officials.

Respects paid to older war veterans

YANGON, 11 Oct — The Organizing Committee of the Mingala Taungnyunt Township War Veterans Organization held respect-paying ceremony (2005) in conjunction with the presenting of cash assistance to outstanding students at No 1 Basic Education High School in the township on 9 October.

The chairman of the Township Peace and Development Council and the township WVO delivered speeches. Respects were paid and cash and kind presented to 90 war veterans aged above 70. Next, cash assistance was provided for children of the organization members who passed matriculation examination with one to six distinctions.— MNA

First, Col Tint Hsan and Director-General of Fine Arts Department U Ngwe Tun made speeches on the occasion.

Chairmen of panel of judges Daw Tin Tin Mya, Winna Kyaw Htin U Sein Aung Min, U Kyaw Swa (Writer Chit Oo Nyo), U Ye Dwe, Bogalay Tun and Gita Lulin U Ko Ko held discussions on disciplines of the competitions and marking systems.

Next, judges of central, state and division levels gave suggestions on the occasion. Afterwards, Col Tint Hsan gave necessary instructions and made concluding remarks.

295 drug-related cases exposed in September

YANGON, 11 Oct — Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force and Customs Department managed to expose a total of 295 drug-related cases in September 2005.

The drug-related cases exposed were 61.5962 kilos of opium in 40 cases, 505.643 kilos of heroin in 113 cases, 0.0019 kilo of morphine in one case, 0.4049 kilo of opium oil in seven cases, 4.9994 kilos of low grade opium in nine cases, 0.8377 kilo of marijuania in nine cases, 76191 stimulant tablets in 67 cases, 0.0001 kilo of stimulant powder in one case, 2.312 kilos of speciosa in 11 cases, 0.0381 kilo of stimulant powder in one case, 1826 tablets of ecstasy in three cases, one diaephine case, 150 tablets, 2532 litre of chemical liquid in two cases, 750 kilos of chemical powder, 10 cases for failure to register and 10 others.

In connection with the cases, action was taken against 601 persons — 503 men and 98 women. — MNA

Computer Training Course of CSSTB concludes

YANGON, 11 Oct — Basic Computer Training Course No 4/2005 organized by the Civil Service Selection and Training Department under the Civil Service Selection and Training Board concluded yesterday.

At the concluding ceremony held at the office of CSSTB here, Vice Chairman of e-National Task Force Member of CSSTB U Aung Myint made concluding remarks and presented certificates to the trainees. — MNA
Gentlemen, I would like to ask you “Do you know that according to political science, deception will be rampant all over the world without Abhidhamma, which means reflections of man’s mind on material world?”

To elaborate my statement, man is to view the things in the right perspective, and only then will his views be right. If one’s views are in contradiction to what things really are, it will not be in conformity with Abhidhamma, and supposing, at that time one expresses one’s views, they will be lies because the views are far away from the truth.

I have to refute the accusations in the report “Threat to the Peace: A Call for the UN Security Council to Act in Burma” the two men submitted to the UN on 20 September, in order that you two can notice the adverse effects.

In the report, you accused that the coup of the Tatmadaw harms stability and peace of the nation. That is a statement in contrast with true events.

The truth is that whenever the nation faced situations that harmed its peace, stability, and sovereignty, the Tatmadaw had to take over State power for restoration of peace and stability, and ensuring non-disintegration of the Union and perpetuation of sovereignty. But that is unlike the coups in some countries, for which commanders-in-chief of defence services manipulated respective nations to seek their self-interests.

Just after the World War II, Myanmar and its people were in dire poverty due to the colonialists’ exploitation of natural resources for 123 years, practice of land ownership system, and falling under subjugation of the fascists. In consequences of sheer poverty, lagging behind in development, and bitter experiences and abhorrence to the rule of the colonialists, the majority of the people fell under the influence of socialism initiated by leftist opportunists who dreamt of eliminating capitalism and introducing socialism in the nation. And all the political parties were dominated by left-wing socialism. Such a wrong view of politics did generate a wrong conviction that the independence that the nation regained through negotiations with the British government, was just a sham and the collusion of the national capitalists and the colonialists, followed by an uprising to topple the AFPFL government and to introduce socialism.

National races, who had fallen victim to the divisive acts by the colonialists many years ago, also rose against the government, culminated in multi-coloured armed insurgency.

Tomake matters worse, Communists and Pyithu Yehawa (PPY) broke away from the AFPFL, just a group of parties, and national races chose armed struggle line. Being incapable of restoring State power any longer, the then government offered the post of deputy prime minister to the commander-in-chief of Defence Services in 1949. Then, the deputy prime minister together with the prime minister had to take a leading role in crushing the armed revolt to restore the State power.

In 1958, the AFPFL government split into two groups — AFPFL (Stable) and AFPFL (Clean). Then, the Caretaker Government led by the then commander-in-chief of Defence Services was formed to restore peace and stability and to organize elections.

The elections took place in 1960. The Tatmadaw Government handed over State power to the winning party, Pa-Hoa-Sa government, in 1961. However, the Pa-Hoa-Sa government split into two groups — U and Bo group and Thakhin group — and was not in a position to restore State power at all. Moreover, Shan Sawbaws (chiefisans) plotted a scheme to secede from the Union and to join the SEATO led by the US. For that reason, the Tatmadaw had to take over State power for ensuring non-disintegration of the Union and perpetuation of sovereignty.

In the 1988 unrest, the then Dr Maung Maung government was incapable of restoring State authority any longer, and the NLD leaders of today then were not in a position to take responsibilities for restoration of peace and stability. In consequence, anarchy reigned supreme across the nation, left-wing Burma Commu- nist Party cells raided police stations to seize State power, anarchists were robbing State-owned property and committing violent murders on innocent people, under the circumstances the people daren’t oppose their acts. Unavoidably, the Tatmadaw took over State power for restoration of tranquillity and peace and perpetuation of sovereignty.

In those incidents, it was apparent that they were to be the coups of the Tatmadaw. But in essence, the Tatmadaw had to take up State duties because at those times, there was no individual nor political party that could take a leading role in the nation’s political sector.

The second accusation says that the internal affairs of Myanmar have negative effects on stability of the region and neighbouring countries.

Since the rule of the AFPFL government, in the times of successive governments of Myanmar, certain nations have been accepting and abetting anti-govern- ment groups of fugitives. However, Myanmar govern- ments have tackled the problems in line with the UN principles, and the principles of the neutral policy of non-aligned countries. So, up to now Myanmar has never created a situation that caused border incidents between Myanmar and any of her neighbours.

Following the 1988 incident, the Tatmadaw Government opened reception camps in border areas to receive the students and renegades returning from abroad. The majority of them returned home, but the minority did not due to the threats and deceptions of the insurgents.

At that time, some neighbouring countries provided assistance for the anti-government groups as they had no effective economic and political undertakings of the government, and the anti-government ele- ments were shooting democracy. But, later they no longer supported the insurgents owing to their notice of the government’s achievements in constructing economic, political and social foundations in the nation and understanding of apparent nature of the anti-government elements.

Now, they are joining hands with the government in economic and transport sectors and security of border areas. The Tatmadaw Government is cooperating with members of ASEAN and BIMST-EC as well as the People’s Republic of China for the development in the economic and transport sectors through Mekong Regional Development Group. In that situation, a cooperation with neighbouring countries are on the increase.

So, this accusation lacks right perspective.

The third accusation says the situation of Myanmar’s situa- tion is worse than the racial conflicts and genocide in African nations.

Internal conflicts in the African nations of very poor economy are due to rivalry for profits, resulting from economic decline based on racial antagonism and genocide. For instance, Congo, the third largest country in Africa, has a population of 40 million and is rich in valuable minerals, diamond, gold, oil, and uranium in abundance. After the World War II, Mobutu Sese Seko assassinated president Lumumba and seized State power. That was followed by the armed struggle line led by Kabila, who then came to power. Later, there arose armed insurgency against Kabila government. At that time, there were three fronts between the rebels and Kabila supporters, between national races in eastern Congo and Tutsi ethnic people, and between Rwandan and Ugandan troops that supported the rebels and Zimbabwean, Angolan and Mozambiquan troops that supported the government.

According to the historical researchers, all the foreign troops had intention of seizing the reserves of precious stones of Congo. Since the period of colonialists, no war as violent as that one has broken out in Congo, and the region has stood as the largest battleground in the history of Africa. So, the war has been called as the First War of Africa. The wholesale slaughter of national races was the most barbarous of its kind in the human history.

Myanmar is home to diverse national races that have been living in unison in the same land through thick and thin and drinking water from same sources for thousands of years. They are national brethren who were absolutely united in the fights against the colonialists and the fascists. There can be no war among the national races due to the religion. It is because Buddhism is indeed a teaching to be practised, but not an aim. In Buddhism are social ethics such as four cardinal virtues, Five Precepts, Eight Precepts, and Ten Precepts, and so in general, Buddhists disparage of cruelty, brutality and barbarism.

The instigation of the colonialists led to armed conflicts that occurred among the national races for a certain period. However, of 18 national race armed groups, 17 groups have returned to the legal fold. Now, they are not only joining hands harmoniously with the government in border areas development undertakings but also attending the National Convention to draft a State Constitution needed for a brighter future of the nation. The remaining group met with the government for the reunion. But, instigation of neo-colonialists has caused disruption to the drive for advancement.
Open letter to Mr Vaclav Havel ...

(from page 10)

insults committed by Tatmadaw members and hun-
dreds of thousands of Shan nationals had lost their
lives with their property destroyed, the Tatmadaw
Government could not have made peace with na-
tional race armed groups; and community peace
and stability could not have restored and under
such circumstances SSA-S remnants would not
need to forcibly recruited local national youths.

The remaining facts in this regard were clari-
Fied by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 29
September 2005.

Soon after its assumption of State responsi-
bilities, the Tatmadaw introduced the market-ori-
tented economic system and multi-party democ-
Racy system in the nation for democratic transi-
tion. In 1990, it held the elections and urged the
political parties to draw a State Constitution to
attendance of U Aung Shwe and party members to
the door for the practice of the market-ori-
tented economic system. Nevertheless, the NLD
clings on to the conviction that the pro-
grammes the Tatmadaw had been carrying out
for democratic transition, the ultimate desire
of the people, caused a great hindrance to de-
ocracy campaign and we are just the coup of
the Armed Forces or establishment of dic-
tatorship.

2. The regarding of the Tatmadaw Government
as the dictatorship misled the people into as-
suming that all the Tatmadaw Government’s
efforts to implement political, economic and
social objectives were aimed at prolonging the
military dictatorship. Consequently, it was at-
tracting the practice of the policy of confron-
tation, defiance and opposition to the
Tatmadaw Government through mass demon-
stations. Then, it prompted an invitation to
international economic sanctions, mass unrests,
opposition to the Tatmadaw Government’s
drive for political, economical and social
improvement and transition to democracy, and
assumption of anarchy as democracy campaign
that violently harms community peace, tran-
quility, national solidarity, the market-oriented
economy, and democracy affairs.

3. Misconceptions were that democracy camp-
aign would achieve success only after the
downfall of military dictatorship, and that de-
spite the absence of infrastructures necessary
for democratic transition, democracy could be
practised immediately by directly copying
western democracy and toppling the Tatmadaw
Government.

4. Anti-government groups’ misconceptions and
acts are considered to be correct, and
the groups are claiming as if the ruling govern-
ment’s efforts to ensure proper evolution of
the market-oriented economic system and im-
plementation of the State’s seven-point Road
Map to flourish genuine democracy were un-
necessary.

It is indeed crystal clear that such evil acts
really cause a hindrance to the nation’s
democratic transition and are designed to
help a certain party and a handful of people
come into power. During the 17-year pe-
riod, the people have provided no support to
the anti-government group at all, depicting
that the people distinguish constructive ef-
torts and destructive acts.

The report is just a stereotype view of de-
mocracy, stating untrue events as true ones and
turning the actual situation of the nation on its
head, thereby causing adverse effects on
Myanmar’s efforts to transform itself into a dem-
ocratic nation.

As a matter of fact, your report has won
only the support of a handful of people, not the
entire national people. Such a handful of people
are strongly opposed to the Tatmadaw Govern-
ment’s drive for peaceful transition to democracy
and are resorting to various means to come to
power such as confrontation against the present
government with the intention of grabbing State
power without a State Constitution, armed strife,
terrorist acts, and calling for economic sanctions
pressure on the nation so that the nation and
the people will be in dire straits and to incite mass
demonstrations. They are committing destructive
acts to destabilize the nation, harm national unity
and introduction of the market-oriented economic
system and to decrease productive forces so as to
come to power. However, they are always blindly
following the dictates of their foreign masters and
their allies.

In conclusion, I would like to present a
Myanmar saying “Praise of a foolish man brings
disgrace”.

Translation: MS

Kyemon: 11-10-2005

MWVO organizes
Advanced Organizing
Course

YANGON, 11 Oct—
Advanced Organizing
Course No 7/2005 of the
Myanmar War Veterans
Organization was opened
on 3 October at the train-
ing school of MWVO in
Patheingyi Township.

Member of the
Myanmar War Veterans
Organization Central Or-
ganizing Committee Chairman of Mandalay
City Development Com-
mittee Brig-Gen Phone
Zaw Han delivered an
introductionary address at
the ceremony.

Altogether 49
MWVO members are at-
tending the one-month
course. — MNA

Donate
blood

To Havel and Tutu

* As our Buddha had exhorted
For you who are far from Buddha to
ponder
Take this as having been written
For you who are away from Buddha to
ponder.

* Friends, teachers, everyone and
Learned persons, all people
Should not believe just what’s heard
Incorrect news, dirty schemes
To dissect and beware
That was the essence, of Kalama Sutta
As was exhorted by Him.

* If you want to tell the truth
Find out the situation as is
And only if you personally see
The situation as is
That word as is heard
Should only be taken as truthful.

* Without knowledge of the truth
Without seeing what is right or wrong
If you say just something else
Wrong will be said, and you’ll be wrong
And become bereft of law.

* The colonial danger from the West
Nobel laureate, that honour
And one who was a president
The two infidels
Those who possess unclean sight and
hearing
Will be given new title world infidels
They will have to be named thus.

Po Than ( Pike Kyone)
Six Indonesian patients with bird flu-like illness to be discharged

JAKARTA, 10 Oct— At least six of the 15 patients who have been treated at the Sulianti Saroso Hospital in Jakarta for suspicion that they contracted the avian influenza virus are scheduled to be discharged on Monday.

“Results of blood sample test conducted at the Contagious Disease Prevention Directorate’s laboratory of the Health Ministry showed on Sunday that six patients can be allowed to return home,” official news agency Antara quoted Sulianti Saroso, the hospital’s spokesman, as saying here on Sunday. Six patients scheduled to return home are identified as one 22-year-old adult and five children.

The hospital’s spokesman said the laboratory tests showed that they were negative for the H5N1 or avian influenza virus.

They only got typhoid, respiratory illness and common flu,” he said, adding that every patient who was suspected to have contracted the deadly AI virus should undergo medical check before they are discharged from hospital.

He also said the decision to discharge patients with bird-flu-like symptoms from the hospital was discussed at a meeting between a Health Ministry team and a team of doctors.

Meanwhile, speaking on health condition of the remaining nine patients, the spokesman said they had been getting better except a child identified as 3.5-year-old FZ, who had been in intensive care as the child’s body temperature was still recorded at 37.1 degree Celsius.

There are dozens of hospitals identified by the government as official to receive patients with bird flu symptoms. Statistics of relevant patients at other hospitals are not available yet.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV CARAKA JAYA NIAGA III-4 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.10.2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority
Agent for: CHAHAYA SHIPPING & TRADING CO PTE LTD SINGAPORE
Phone No: 256924/256914

Turkey culls poultry to stem spread of bird flu

ANKARA, 10 Oct— Turkey culled about 1,500 chickens and turkeys overnight to prevent the spread of avian flu after reporting its first outbreak of the disease on a farm near the Aegean Sea, NTV private television said on Sunday.

The authorities have also imposed a three-kilometre (two-mile) quarantine zone around the affected farm, where nearly 2,000 turkeys died of the globally feared disease on Tuesday and Wednesday, the station said.

“At the moment this is not a situation which should cause (ordinary citizens) any worry. At the moment, there is no question of having household pets put down,” the state Anatolian news agency quoted local official Resul Celik as saying.— MNA/Reuters
Study finds pacifiers reduce sudden infant deaths

WASHINGTON, 10 Oct — Infants should be put to sleep on their backs only, not their sides, and pacifiers can be used to help prevent sudden infant death syndrome, US pediatrics said on Monday.

Revised guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics issued on Monday also discourage parents from sleeping with their infants at all, saying babies are safer in their own cribs.

SIDS, the sudden, unexplained death of an infant in the first year of life, is the third leading cause of infant mortality in the United States, causing the deaths of 2,500 infants each year.

Campaigns to encourage parents and other caregivers to put babies to sleep on their backs instead of their tummies slashed the death rates from SIDS, also known as crib death or cot death, in countries such as Britain and the United States in the 1980s and 1990s.

"Studies have found that the side sleep position is unstable and increases the chances of the infant rolling onto his or her stomach. Every caregiver should use the back sleep position during every sleep period," the academy said in a statement.

"Infants may be brought into bed for nursing or comforting, but should be returned to their own crib or bassinet when the parent is ready to return to sleep. However, there is growing evidence that room sharing (infant sleeping in a crib in parent's bedroom) is associated with a reduced risk of SIDS."

Miss Uganda to participate in Miss World contest in China

KAMPALA, 10 Oct — Praise Akankwatsa, a finalist journalism student at Makerere University, was selected as Miss Uganda 2005/2006 on Saturday and will represent Uganda at the Miss World contest in China in November, according to a local report on Sunday.

Ms Akankwatsa, 22, beat 14 other girls to the crown in a tight contest held here on Saturday.

Five feet seven inches, she stood taller than most contestants and was confident, articulate and bright. She takes over from 20-year-old Barbara Kimbugwe.

Akankwatsa, who loves swimming, modelling and doing charity work and is a part-time model with Downtown Models, said she is capable of winning the world title.

"They are girls like me so why can't I be Miss World?" Akankwatsa said after winning the title of Miss Uganda.

China says Mount Qomolangma stands at 8,844.43 metres

BEIJING, 10 Oct — The summit rock of Mount Qomolangma is 8,844.43 metres above sea level, China's surveying and mapping department announced here on Sunday. The newly measured height is 3.7 metres shorter than the measurements of 8,848.13 metres, a figure obtained during the previous measurement in 1975, said Chen Bangzhu, director general of the State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping (SBBSM).

"The improved technology has made the data of current measurements more precise," he added.

The rate of precision for the measurement of Mount Qomolangma's summit rock is within a margin of 0.21 metre, and the ice and snow layer at the mountain summit is 3.5 metres in thickness, Chen said at Sunday's Press conference. The datum have been obtained after arduous field survey and through thorough calculation and checkout, Chen said. The SBBSM began designing the measurement campaign late last year and Chinese mountaineers climbed up the summit of Mount Qomolangma at 11:08 am of 22 May, 2005. The measurements were then conducted at the six control points by means of theodolites and laser rangers lasting for 48 hours. Surveyors at the mountain summit measured the thickness of the ice and snow layers under the survey marker with radar altimeter.

Japan launches outback supersonic test flight

SYDNEY, 10 Oct — Japan launched a test flight of a supersonic jet in the Australian outback on Monday in the hope of taking another step towards a successor to the Concorde.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) said the prototype supersonic jet was launched on the back of a rocket from the remote Woomera rocket range in the South Australian desert on 10 Oct, 2005, in this handout photo released by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).

"The rocket and the experimental aircraft has detached, reach more than twice the speed of sound, and glided back to earth on a parachute.

Data gained through the test will be used in joint research by Japan and France towards next-generation supersonic jet following an agreement between the two nations in June, though the test itself is not a result of the agreement.

No budget projections have yet been made for the entire project, but the costs are considerable.

Japanese developers hope that a new supersonic jet could some day make the trip from Tokyo to New York in just under six hours — less than half the current time. But doubts have been raised about whether the project will ever be commercially viable given that the Concorde, which was retired two years ago, never managed to turn a profit.
President hails Angola's qualification for World Cup

LUND, 11 Oct — Angolan President Jos Eduardo dos Santos said on Sunday that the national soccer team's victory in Kigali, Rwanda, was "sweaty, deserved and fair".

"Let the world recognizes the merit of the strong... and of those who can win," dos Santos said at the welcoming ceremony of the Angolan team, who booked its ticket to Germany 2006 World Cup finals after beating Rwanda 1-0 on Saturday.

"Today it is a moment of happiness and feasting, the Angolan people welcome their representatives with joy for the quest attained in Kigali," said the President. "Let us pay homage to the winners with a toast for their health and so that they can achieve new conquests and more significant."

Jos Eduardo dos Santos was accompanied by his wife, Ana Paula, Prime Minister Fernando da Piedade Dias dos Santos, and the first deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, at the ceremony held at Luanda International Airport's protocol halls. —MNA/Xinhua

Eriksson says he will prove wrong

MANCHESTER (England), 11 Oct— Sven-Goran Eriksson believes Rio Ferdinand will use England's World Cup qualifier against Poland on Wednesday to prove he was wrong to have axed the central defender against Austria.

Eriksson's recent dip in form for England and Manchester United has led Eriksson to drop him from the starting line-up on Saturday in favour of Sol Campbell and John Terry.

"The blow, delivered at Ferdinand's Old Trafford club ground, was unexpectedly softened in the second half when Campbell suffered a hamstring injury that will also rule him out on Wednesday. Ferdinand came on as a substitute."

"He will start," Eriksson said of his plans for the 26-year-old against Poland.

"When you take decisions like this, with great players who have never sat on the bench before, you can get two different reactions."

"One is head down, even worse, sad, whatever it is. Or you have the opposite - I will show you that I was wrong'. "Rio will show me that I was wrong. I am 100 per cent sure of that."

"Ferdinand's return will be among several changes after Saturday's 1-0 win helped them secure a place in the finals, the latest setback being a shin problem which has ruled out midfielder Steven Gerrard for up to three weeks." Phil Neville is among several alternatives available, but Eriksson may opt for central defender Ledley King."

"When Eriksson re-shuffled his pack after David Beckham's dismissal against Austria, it was King he chose to send on as a shield in front of the back four."

"On Wednesday, he could free up fellow midfielder Frank Lampard to attack the Poles. —MNA/Reuters

Davenport sees off Mauresmo to claim 50th title

FELDSTADT (Germany), 11 Oct— Lindsay Davenport beat Amelie Mauresmo 6-2, 6-4 in the Filderstadt Grand Prix final on Sunday to claim the 50th singles title of her career.

The top-seeded Davenport has won five tournaments this year, following victories in Dubai, Amelia Island, New Haven and Bali. She also finished runner-up at the Australian Open, Wimbledon, Tokyo indoor tournament and Indian Wells.

"I was really excited to get 50 titles. It means a lot to me," the American, who goes home to California before returning next week, end to play in Zurich, told reporters.

"It's been a really great week. I felt I played really well at certain times and been able to win some good matches." Davenport was barely troubled in the opening set, giving up just four points in five games after Mauresmo, the third-seeded Frenchwoman, had held for 1-0. "Her big forehand had Mauresmo on the defensive, especially in the first set, and the American broke to love in the third game."

"Mauresmo frequently came to the net but left herself exposed to Davenport's passing shots and she found it difficult to deal with the weight and depth of the American's groundstrokes. A strong return allowed Davenport to break again for 4-1, and her only tense moment came as she served for the set and had to save two break points. "Mauresmo hit a forehand long on the first and Davenport closed out the set with another high volley. "Whenever you're out there playing a final, the start can be tough, you try to get it on, to only helps you," Davenport said. "I was able to get up that first break at 2-1 and then I played really, really well for a stretch of games." Davenport competed much better in the second set, returning more effectively and striking fine volleys. "Her enterprise eventually paid off and she broke Davenport to lead 4-2, but the American reeled off the next four games to clinch victory. —MNA/Reuters

S P O R T S

Rooney promises to control his temper

MANCHESTER (England), 11 Oct— England striker Wayne Rooney vowed on Monday to curb his volatile temperament at next year's World Cup.

"I think he's a good referee. He's been refereeing for years and has done a good job, so there's no problem there.

"However, Rooney sees no need to change the hard-tackling style which characterises his game and which manager Sven-Goran Eriksson is anxious to keep."

"I go into each game I want to win," he said. "One hundred and ten percent committed." Rooney also denied any problem with England captain David Beckham, with whom he had a much-publicised spat on the pitch during last month's 1-0 qualifying defeat in Northern Ireland.

"Things happen, people have disagreements and that's it," Rooney said. "It's forgotten about before you leave the stadium. It's all been blown out of proportion."

"In the past, my temperament has let me down a couple of times."

"I'm an experienced player and I don't think there'll be many problems in the future. I'm an experienced player and I want to prove that."

"I was young and I want to learn from that. I don't think there'll be many problems in the future. I'm an experienced player and I want to prove that."

"I was terrible during the first half and I was not 100 percent sure of that."

"Frank Lampard to attack the Poles. —MNA/Reuters

Kenya's Limo wins Chicago Marathon with best time of year

WASHINGTON, 11 Oct— Kenya's Felix Limo beat countryman and defending champ Benjamin Maiyo to take the title of the Chicago men's marathon on Sunday, clocking the fastest time for this year, 2 hours 7 minutes and 54 seconds.

Deena Kastor of the United States won the women's crown with a time of 2:21.24, only 5 seconds ahead of Romania's defending champion Constantina Tomescu. The 25-year-old Limo surged ahead in the final meters before the finish line ahead of Maiyo (2:07.11) and Daniel Njenga (2:07.14). Two-time former winner Evans Rutto of Kenya took fourth place in 2:07.30. Limo ran the fastest time of the year bettering the 2:07.26 posted by Martin Lel of Kenya in London.

Kastor, the bronze medalist in the event at the Athens Olympics last year, pulled ahead of Romania's Constantina Tomescu, the defending champion and the newly-crowned world half marathon champion. —MNA/Xinhua

Vierra apologizes for poor performance in Switzerland

CLAIREFONTAINE (France), 11 Oct— France midfielder Patrick Vieira has apologized for his poor performance in the 1-1 draw against Switzerland in a World Cup qualifier on Saturday.

The Juventus player, usually a consistent performer for his country, put in one of his worst displays in 82 internationals.

"I'm blaming myself," Vieira told a news conference at the French squad's training headquarters on Sunday. "I was terrible during the first half and I was not exactly good in the second," he said.

"It didn't take me long to realise that I was having a bad day. I only needed a couple of passes and a few body checks to know how bad I felt," he said. "Then I tried to do my best from there."

Vieira made no excuses for his display and refused to confirm reports that he is nursing a groin injury. —MNA/Reuters

Maria Sharapova holds her award from the Russian Tennis Federation for the Russia's best player in 2004/5, during a news conference in Moscow, on 10 Oct, 2005. Sharapova arrived on a rare visit to her native country to attend this week's Kremlin Cup in Moscow. —INTERNET


Kastor, the bronze medalist in the event at the Athens Olympics last year, pulled ahead of Romania's Constantina Tomescu, the defending champion and the newly-crowned world half marathon champion. —MNA/Xinhua

Kastor, the bronze medalist in the event at the Athens Olympics last year, pulled ahead of Romania's Constantina Tomescu, the defending champion and the newly-crowned world half marathon champion. —MNA/Xinhua

Kastor, the bronze medalist in the event at the Athens Olympics last year, pulled ahead of Romania's Constantina Tomescu, the defending champion and the newly-crowned world half marathon champion. —MNA/Xinhua
One US soldier killed, one injured in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 11 Oct—One US soldier was killed, another was injured on Sunday during a firefight with suspected Taleban in Afghanistan’s southern province of Zabul, US military said on Monday.

“The unit was conducting offensive operations with Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers near Shinkay area of Zabul when they were attacked with small arms and fragmentation grenades,” it said in a news release.

“The wounded soldier was medically evacuated to a nearby forward operating base for treatment and is currently in stable condition,” it added. MNA/Xinhua

Suicide bombing kills 6, injures 5 in south Afghanistan

KABUL, 11 Oct—A powerful explosion, apparently a suicide attack rocked Afghanistan’s southern Kandahar Province Monday morning, leaving six dead and five others injured, said the police. “The blast, apparently a suicide attack took place in front of Agha Shah, a pro-government former commander at around 10 o’clock, leaving six dead including Shah and injuring five others,” senior police official Abdul Hakim Khan told Xinhua.

This is the second attack of its kind in the volatile province which is the former stronghold of Taleban militants over the past two days. The first explosion, which targeted a car on Sunday, killed the suicide attacker and injured four Britons in the city. The number of casualties is feared to rise as rescue operation is going on—MNA/Xinhua

Afghans load an airplane with aid for victims of Pakistan’s deadly earthquake, at Kabul airport on 10 Oct, 2005. The consignment included four tonnes of medicines, blankets and tents. — INTERNET

WEATHER

Tuesday, 11 October, 2005
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Chin, Kayin and Mon States, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in upper Sagaing Division and isolated in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthoung (0.98) inch, Kalay (0.78) inch and Kanbalu (0.24) inch. Maximum temperature on 10-10-2005 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 11-10-2005 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 11-10-2005 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 10-10-2005 was (8.6) hours approx. Rainfalls on 11-10-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (95.20) inches at Mingaladon, (96.34) inches at Kaba-Aye and (100.55) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from East at (12:25) hours MST on 10-10-2005.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, yesterday’s low pressure area over Southwest Bay persists. Weather is generally fair in the East Central Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 12-10-2005: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Chin and Rakhine States and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 12-10-2005: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 40%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 12-10-2005: Partly cloudy.

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Performing Arts Competitions Leading Committee Chairman meets managers, competitors from States, Divisions

YANGON, 11 Oct—A meeting between the Chairman of Leading Committee for Organizing 13th Myanma Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions and members of the organizing committees, the sub-committees, managers from the states and divisions and competitors was held at the meeting hall of the Reception and Accommodation Sub-Committee Office, No 1 Transit Centre (Bayintnaung) this evening with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

First, the managers from the states and divisions were introduced to the commander.

Next, the commander made a speech, saying that the 13th Myanma Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions will be held on a grand scale with the seven objectives; arrangements have been made for the convenience of the artists from the states and divisions during their stay.

The commander stressed the need for the artists to take part in the competitions with full artistic skills, and handsome prizes will be given to the winners.

He expressed his honour to the managers from the states and divisions who made strenuous efforts for the artists to be able to participate in the central levels and called upon them to uphold national culture and character.

Afterwards, Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung reported on the competitions.

Later, officials of the committee and sub-committees presented work carried out.

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks by the chairman.

After the ceremony, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and officials inspected hostels of the competitors, messes, dispensary and commodity shops there.—MNA

Inside

The instigation of the colonialists led to armed conflicts that occurred among the national races for a certain period. However, of 18 national race armed groups, 17 groups have returned to the legal fold. Now, they are not only joining hands harmoniously with the government in border areas development undertakings but also attending the National Convention to draft a State Constitution needed for a brighter future of the nation.

YANGON, 11 Oct—The 2005 Mid-Year Myanma Gems Emporium launched sale of jade lots through tender system at the Myanmar Gems Mart on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here starting 8 am today.

Patron of the Central Committee for Organizing Myanmar Gems Emporium Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint, and Chairman of the Central Committee Deputy Minister U Myint Thein cordially greeted the gems merchants buying jade lots through tender system.

Up to 3 pm, a total of 289 jade lots were sold. In the evening, the sales continued.

Altogether 2,040 gems merchants — 813 locals and 1,227 foreigners from 13 countries — are attending the emporium.

The sales of jade lots through tender system continue tomorrow.

—MNA

Jade lots on sale through tender system

Gem merchants view jade lots displayed at the Gems Emporium.

MNA