Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Kazakhstan

YANGON, 25 Oct—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Nursultan A Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Kazakhstan, which falls on 25 October 2005. —MNA

The outcome of the process of reform will be of utmost importance for the world organization in building a more secure world

YANGON, 24 Oct — The following is a translation of the message sent by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe to the occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary of United Nations Day.

“Today is the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. We commemorate United Nations Day every year since its inception in honour of the world Organization which is of crucial importance to the future of humankind.

The United Nations Member States have witnessed the Organization’s achievements in overcoming the various threats and challenges to the people all over the world during the past sixty years. We have also witnessed the Organization’s achievements in safeguarding the noble purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter to maintain international peace and security, and to attain cooperation in solving international economic, social, cultural and humanitarian issues. The membership of the United Nations has nearly quadrupled to 191 states since it was founded. Thus the universality of membership testifies to the legitimacy of the Organization in international relations.

The world is also seeing the Organization’s persevering efforts in facing new challenges and threats of (See page 9)

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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

It is necessary to seriously look into difficulties of developing countries especially the world’s poorest countries

60th Anniversary United Nations Day observed

YANGON, 24 Oct — A ceremony to mark the 60th Anniversary United Nations Day was held at the Myanmar Convention Centre on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township this evening, with an address by the Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein. It was also attended by wife of the Secretary-1 Daw Khin Khin Win, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife, the ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the auditor-general, the chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board, the chairman of Yangon City Development Committee the mayor, (See page 8)

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
PERSPECTIVES
Tuesday, 25 October, 2005

A shot in the arm for Paukphaw relations

In accordance with the five principles of peaceful co-existence, the Union of Myanmar has been living together in peace and friendship with her neighbours and other nations in the region. Exchange of visits between the leaders of the Union of Myanmar and their counterparts of the neighbouring nations have contributed a lot to economic cooperation, peace and development in the region.

At the invitation of the Government of the People’s Republic of China, Prime Minister General Soe Win of the Union of Myanmar visited Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, the People’s Republic of China from 17 to 20 October and attended the Second China-ASEAN Expo and the Second China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit.

During the visit, Prime Minister General Soe Win had cordial discussions on matters of mutual interests with Vice-President Mr Zeng Qinghong of the People’s Republic of China and Chairman of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Mr Lu Bin.

Prime Minister General Soe Win also received the correspondents of daily newspapers, radio and television stations and news agencies in China on 20 October. In his replies to the correspondents, Prime Minister General Soe Win said that the Second China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit was held with a view to promoting cooperation between China and ASEAN and expressed his belief that the summit will contribute to shaping a brighter future for China and ASEAN nations.

As Myanmar and China have common land border, border trade is thriving and steps are being taken to upgrade the border trade to normal cross-border trade. Now both countries are essaying to raise the bilateral trade value to 1.5 billion US dollars. More than 100 traders and businessmen from Myanmar attended the Second China-ASEAN Expo and signed agreements with trading partners from other nations.

Rich in natural resources, the Union of Myanmar has been practising the agro-based economic system. China is the second largest trading partner of Myanmar and Myanmar has favourable conditions for entrepreneurs from China to come and invest in the country.

We believe that Prime Minister General Soe Win’s visit to the People’s Republic of China will be a shot in the arm for Paukphaw relations between the two nations and will contribute a lot to bilateral cooperation in trade and investment.

/people's desire

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State

Commander drives a stake for housing estate in South Okkalapa

YANGON, 23 Oct — Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Lt-Gen Myint Swe this morning attended a ceremony to launch the construction of Myathida Housing Estate project in South Okkalapa Township.

At the ceremony Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Linn, Deputy Minister U Tin Swe, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein, Director-General of Department for Human Settlement and Housing Development U Aung Win and Chairman of Yangon East District PDC Col Maung Maung Shein drove the stakes and sprinkled scented water on them.

The project will be implemented by DHSHD on 17.87 acres of land covering 71 two-storey buildings.

MNA

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe driving in the stake. — MNA

Katnaha Robe offering ceremony of Shweminwun Sasana Yeikha on 30 October

YANGON, 24 Oct — The 23rd Katnaha Robes offering ceremony of Shweminwun Sasana Yeikha, No 70 Sasana Yeikha road, Alae Shwegondaing Ward, Bahan Township will be held on 30 October at 8 am at the Yeiktha.

Air Bagan Golf Tour concludes

Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and officials awarded the winners.

Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint presented cash awards to Soe Kyaw Naing (Srixon), Min Naing (Srixon) and Aung Win (YCDC, Srixon) who stood first, second and third respectively at the professional golfers event.

Air Bagan Ltd Vice Chairman U Zaw Min and Deputy Commander Brig-Gen San Tun awarded the daily best award winners at amateur level and professional level events.

At the amateur golfers division, Naing Naing Linn stood first with 294 strokes; Nay Linn Tun second with 301 strokes and Nay Bala Win Myint third with 302 strokes.

Co-sponsors of the tour were Myanmar Brewery Ltd, Myanmar Treasure Resort, Aureum Palace Hotel Resort, Kanbawza Bank Ltd, Max Myanmar Hotel, Srixon and London, and the tour was organized by Han Event Management.

General Secretary of UMFCCI receives Thai delegation

YANGON, 24 Oct — General-Secretary of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Sein Win Hlaing received a delegation led by Mr Huan Tresat, Director of Office of Commercial Affairs, Chiang Rai, Thailand and Mr Rachan Veeraphan, Chairman of Joint Economic Quadrangle Chambers Committee (JEQC) at his office on 21 October.

They discussed matters on participation of Myanmar entrepreneurs in Grand Lanna & Mekong Culture Fair’ 05 to be held in Chiang Rai, Thailand from 21 to 25 December 2005, cooperation on boosting trade, investment and tourism, and staging arts and cultural exhibition under the cultural exchange programme at the fair.

— MNA

Daw Tin Tin Aye and family of 87, Pyay Road, Mayangon Township, Yangon, present K 200,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged in memory of U Nyunt Han. — MNA
China-ASEAN “tax-reduction” action benefits all parties concerned

NANNING, 23 Oct — The “tax-reduction plan” initiated three months ago has signified that China and ten ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) countries have started to remove trade barriers.

Three months later, several thousands of non-tariff or tax-reduced products are exhibited at the on-going second China-ASEAN expo, and they have attracted more than 20,000 buyers from the world.

China-ASEAN expo has become an occasion to test the tax-reduction plan, said Professor Li Xingwang with China International Economy and Cooperation Institute, adding that quality traditional agricultural produce, energy and electricity products from ASEAN are sure to find a vast market in China, while China’s Yangtze River Delta and Pearl River Delta area are also easy to find cooperative ASEAN partners.

With China-ASEAN “Agreement on Goods Trade” implemented in July this year, about 7,000 categories of products from both sides have been included in the tax reduction list, and all the above products will enjoy zero-tariff by 2010.

Experts hold that mechanics equipment, electric products, building materials and light industry products are in fields of cooperation with great potential for both China and ASEAN.

Li Tongxi, chief executive officer with ASEAN-China business group, said: “ASEAN countries are expected to get more profits from the Chinese market, with the already-established trade surplus as a strong proof. He also suggested ASEAN enterprises make full preparations for the newly launched tax-reduction plan. — MNA/Xinhua

India offers to set up relief points on Kashmir frontier

NEW DELHI, 23 Oct— India has offered to set up three relief centres for earthquake-stricken people from Pakistani Kashmir along a de facto border dividing the two countries, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Saturday.

"Now we will await their response before going ahead with the implementation," Navtej Sarna told reporters, adding that the relief centres would also provide an opportunity for members of divided Kashmiri families to meet.

The offer came four days after Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf appealed to India to allow the people of Pakistan to cross the Line of Control running through the Himalayan region to help deal with the catastrophe.

India welcomed the offer but there was no immediate word on when the two sides would sit down to work out the details. — MNA/Reuters

Blasts halt north Iraq oil exports

BAGHDAD, 23 Oct— Four sabotage blasts have brought oil exports from northern Iraq to a halt and it could take up to one month to carry out repairs, an oil official said on Sunday.

“The exports to Ceyhan (Turkey) have stopped completely because of four blasts that hit a main gathering centre for at least four wells,” the official told Reuters. — Internet

Official figures show 4,308 Iraqis killed since January

BAGHDAD, 23 Oct — More than 4,300 Iraqis, nearly 70 per cent of them civilians, were killed by guerillas in the first nine months of this year, an Interior Ministry official said on Saturday.

Figures on Iraqi casualties since the March 2003 US-led invasion have been unreliable and difficult to compile, partly because US-led forces say they do not count civilian deaths.

Several non-governmental organizations that compile figures from media reports say the number of Iraqis killed since the invasion is at least 25,000, possibly much more.

Those estimates include Iraqis killed by US-led forces as well as those who are victims of rampant crime.

The Interior Ministry official provided Reuters with figures compiled by his own ministry as well as the ministries of Defence and Health, but the figures included only those injuries or deaths attributed to guerillas.

The figures show a total of 4,308 deaths from January to September, comprising 956 police, 376 Army and 2,976 civilians. Civilians account for 69 per cent of the total. — MNA/Reuters

Knocked-down power lines are seen after Hurricane Wilma hit Playa del Carmen in Mexico’s Caribbean state of Quintana Roo on 22 Oct, 2005. — Internet

Baghdad bomb, attacks leave 20 dead in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 23 Oct — A man blew up his car in a Baghdad square today, killing four people in the first significant suicide bombing in the capital in weeks. More than 20 Iraqis died in a swell of violence, including a bomb that killed a police colonel.

Still, with the toll among American service members in the Iraqi war approaching 2,000 dead, the US military said it has hampered guerrillas’ ability to unleash more devastating suicide bombings with a series of offenses in western towns that disrupted militant operations.

In today’s attack, the bomber plowed his explosives-laden car into two police vehicles in downtown Tahrir Square at 11:30 am, killing two police officers and two civilians. US troops rushing to the scene in Humvees found bystanders tending to 11 wounded.

In the past, Baghdad has been heavily battered by deadly suicide attacks, with a string of them killing nearly 700 people from 1 April to early September. — Internet

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Baghdad, 23 Oct — Reporters in Iraq are putting new meaning into the phrase “duck and cover.”

According to the Committee to Protect Journalists Executive Director Anne Cooper there is a “serious and relatively new threat.”

Several of the journalists is it trying to protect have been fired on, or at least above and around, at the only media checkpoint for access to the International Zone in Baghdad.

In a letter to Commanding General George Casey, CPI Executive Director Anne Cooper detailed two incidents this month—she says there have been several others—in which reporters for NPR and The Wall Street Journal had warning shots fired over their heads, with threats of worse. According to NPR senior producer JJ Sutherland came under fire on 3 October after his driver dropped him off 100 meters or so from the checkpoint. “Immediately the Iraqi guards began yelling and shooting warning shots over my head,” he says in the letter, “close enough that I could hear the snap of the bullets as they passed by,” adding that he “did not see the American forces present doing anything to try to prevent it.”

According to the letter, Cooper says the problem is confusion over how journalists are supposed to approach the checkpoint as they try to enter the zone (cover Press conferences, conduct interviews with US and Iraqi officials, and imbibe with units).
Iran will not yield to US nuclear pressure

TEHERAN, 22 Oct — Iran will stand firm against US “bullying” over its nuclear programme but will never use atomic technology to make bombs, the Islamic Republic’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Friday.

“This nation is not a nation that would succumb to the impositions and bullying of the US or any other,” Khamenei told worshippers in a Friday prayers sermon at Teheran University.

“The US politicians who claim Iran seeks nuclear weapons know very well that they are lying ... their purpose is to earn dominance. Human rights is of no value to them,” he said to shouts of “God is Greatest” and “Death to America” from the thousands of people packed in and around the university.

Washington says Iran’s 18-year-cover-up of nuclear activities suggest it is trying to build nuclear weapons under cover of a peaceful atomic energy programme. Iran says it needs nuclear energy to meet booming demand and that its pre-eminence has led to US threats.

In the nuclear energy field, our purpose has nothing to do with nuclear weapons, nor would this technology ever be diverted into (making) weapons, said Khamenei, who has the last word on all state matters.

“However the Iranian nation will not give up on this technology,” he added. Negotiations between Iran and the European Union over its nuclear programme broke down in August.

In September the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) passed a tough resolution which brought Teheran to the brink of referral to the UN Security Council for possible sanctions.

MNA/Reuters

Poll shows Iraqis back attacks on UK, US forces

LONDON, 22 Oct — Forty-five percent of Iraqis believe attacks on US and British troops are justified, according to a secret poll said to have been commissioned by British defence leaders and cited by The Sunday Telegraph.

Less than 1 percent of those polled believed that the forces were responsible for any improvement in security, according to poll figures.

Eighty-two percent of those polled said they were “strongly opposed” to the presence of the troops.— Internet

Florida man drives miles with body in windscreen

MIAMI, 22 Oct — A 39-year-old Florida motorist hit a pedestrian, killing him and severing his leg, and then kept driving three miles to a toll bridge with the bloody corpse stuck in his windscreen, police said on Friday.

At that point a toll-booth attendant police in St Petersburg, Florida, where the accident occurred on Wednesday, and made the driver wait until they arrived.

The driver, “who is possibly suffering from dementia, did not realize he had been involved in a crash,” the police report said. Ralph Thomas Parker told police he thought the body had dropped from above, possibly from an overpass.

The pedestrian’s identity was being withheld until relatives were notified, was thrown headfirst through the windowshield of the 2002 Chevrolet Malibu, with his body resting on the roof. His severed leg landed in the street.

MNA/Reuters

New Singapore rules to prevent misuse of mobiles

SINGAPORE, 22 Oct — Singapore announced new rules on Friday to prevent militants and other criminals from using pre-paid Subscriber Identification Module (SIM) cards in mobile phones.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs Wong Kan Seng said three bombs in Thailand’s Songkhla Province in April were detonated using mobile phones, possibly with pre-paid SIM cards. "Criminals exploit the anonymity of pre-paid SIM cards to avoid detection. Singapore must address this problem urgently as there are over 1.4 million local pre-paid SIM cards, comprising 35 percent of the mobile market, in circulation today,” he said in a statement.

From 1 November, all sellers of pre-paid SIM cards will be required to ask for and electronically verify personal details of purchasers, said the Ministry of Home Affairs and the city-state’s telecoms regulator, the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore. This system will replace the existing manual recording of user information. All existing pre-paid SIM card users are also required to re-register with their respective mobile service providers.

There will be a minimum age requirement of 15 years for pre-paid card buyers, and any one customer can buy up to a maximum of 10 pre-paid cards.— MNA/Reuters
More than 100 officials from the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) will be in Canberra next week for the fifth round of trade talks with Australia and New Zealand. But Australian officials said the way some ASEAN member countries award government contracts to domestic companies has emerged as a key difference halfway through the two-year talks.

"The ASEANs have a very clear view that government procurement should not be part of these negotiations," an official familiar with the negotiations said on condition of anonymity. Government contracts account for up to 10 per cent of gross domestic product in some ASEAN countries but the official said bribery and corruption were a concern for Australia, which wants government procurement to be part of the trade talks.

The official said ASEAN has refused to discuss government procurement and declined to send officials responsible for the issue to the negotiations. Australia wants to use the talks to push market transparency more than market access for Australian and New Zealand suppliers within ASEAN countries.

"These countries are at different stages of development. But there is clearly an important issue here regarding transparency and the role of transparency to facilitate and contribute to good governance," the official said. "A number of the ASEAN countries seem to have a very firm mandate just not to talk about it. One way is just to ensure you don't send the people who are responsible for this to negotiating sessions."

The official declined to say which countries were refusing to discuss government procurement.—MNA/Reuters

### Police destroy package near US Capitol

**WASHINGTON, 22 Oct—a police arrested two young men and destroyed a package in their rental car in an incident that closed several streets around the US Capitol building for about two hours on Friday.**

Capitol police declined to release the names of the men or say whether the package had posed a danger. They said the rental car the men were using was registered in Florida. Police closed several streets near the Capitol building and cleared a nearby commercial office building during the incident. The Capitol and congressional office buildings were not evacuated. "The two individuals approached our officers and advised them that they believed they had a suspicious package in their vehicle," police spokeswoman Jessica Gissuelt told reporters.—MNA/Reuters

### Aid workers among four killed in Afghan violence

**KABUL, 22 Oct—** A local aid worker and two senior provincial officials were among four people killed in Afghanistan, officials said on Friday, in attacks blamed on Taliban militants.

The employee of the Western-funded Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (CHA) relief agency was killed in an ambush in the northwestern province of Faryab on Thursday in which his three colleagues were wounded, provincial CHA head Khan Mohammad Sameem said. Faryab's Governor, Mohammad Aamir Latif, blamed Taliban guerrillas for the attack.

The ambush followed one a week ago in which five local aid workers were killed in the southern province of Kandahar.

In another attack, also on Thursday, Taliban guerrillas blew up a car, killing Nafas Khan, police chief for Zaranj, the provincial capital of Nimroz in the south. A colleague of Khan was also killed in the blast triggered by a remote device, a senior provincial official said, and accused the Taliban for it.

An intelligence official was killed in a roadside bomb in the eastern province of Kunar, officials said.

Mohammad Yousuf, a spokesman for the Taleban, confirmed that militants were behind the blast in Zaranj, but had no information about the attack on CHA.

The latest surge in attacks is part of the violence that has claimed some 1,100 lives, mostly militiamen, but also more than 50 US soldiers in Afghanistan this year, the bloodiest period since US-led troops overthrew Taleban in 2001.

The Taleban have vowed to drive out foreign forces from Afghanistan and topple President Hamid Karzai's government that was installed after the militants' ouster in 2001. —MNA/Reuters

### Twenty guerillas killed in western Iraq

**BAGHDAD, 23 Oct—** US forces in Iraq killed 20 guerrillas on Saturday near the Syrian border while conducting raids on houses believed to be hideouts for al-Qaeda foreign fighters, the US military said.

A statement said US forces found two large caches of weapons, including rocket-propelled grenades, mortar rounds and bomb making materials, during the raids in the western town of Husayba. It said one guerrilla was captured in the operation.

US forces have conducted a series of operations against guerrillas in the Euphrates Valley in western Iraq, a key transit route from Syria to Baghdad.

More than 300 foreign fighters, mostly from Arab states, have been captured in Iraq by US-led troops and Iraqi security forces since the start of April, and their nationalities include Israelis, Irish and British, a senior US commander said on Thursday. —MNA/Reuters

### Indian scientist awarded World Food Prize for 2005

**WASHINGTON, 22 Oct—** Indian scientist Modadugu V Gupta was awarded the prestigious World Food Prize for 2005 in recognition of his work to enhance nutrition for rural poor through expansion of aquaculture and fish farming in Asia and Southeast Asia.

The annual award widely regarded as the Nobel Prize for Food Agriculture was given to Gupta at a glittering ceremony held at the majestic Iowa State Capitol building in Des Moines recently.

Created by Nobel Laureate Norman Borlaug in 1986 for outstanding achievements in food and agriculture aimed at reducing hunger, malnutrition and rural poverty, the award carries a proclamation by the Governor of Iowa and a citation, an original sculpture created by Saul Bass and a cash award of 250,000 US dollars. It is funded by prominent Ohio philanthropist, John Ruan.

The first World Food Prize was awarded to M S Swarmathath in 1986, and thereafter to four other Indian scientists.

—MNA/Reuters

### Police station in Greece destroyed by fire-bombs

**ATHENS, 23 Oct—** A police station in the centre of Athens was destroyed in the early morning of Saturday, no one injured, police said.

According to police, about 20 Greek young people on motorbikes launched self-made fire-bombs at the police station and then fled.

The attack resulted in six patrol cars and one motorbike of the police station being burnt.

Considerable damage was also caused to window panes of shops and entrances of apartment buildings nearby. Police said that there was neither clue before the incident nor any claim afterwards. It is not immediately known whether the criminals belong to any anarchist group in the country.

Although two terrorist groups, November 17 and Revolutionary Struggle, had been dismantled and most of the notorious terrorists had been brought to justice early last year, explosions of homemade bombs are quite common in Greece.—MNA/Xinhua

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**Australian says transparency key in ASEAN trade deal**

**ABU DHABIC 22 Oct—** More than 100 officials from the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) will be in Canberra next week for the fifth round of trade talks with Australia and New Zealand.

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I have been silent on politics for long. But now, the time has arrived for me to write about the issue once more. The word “politics” has evolved together with the human civilization since the latter’s very early stage, during which city-states began to emerge. Greeks and Romans called city states “Polis”, each with one city surrounded by towns and villages under its domain.

Greeks called the authority and science to administer the city states “Politikos”. Greek philosophers are the persons who discovered the political views and thoughts after studying the affairs of the city states. English has many words adopted from other European languages including Latin, Greek, French and German languages. The English adopted the Greek word “Demokratia”, an administration system tested in Greece 2600 years ago, as the word “Democracy” and another Greek word “Politikos” as the word “Politics”.

From the word “Politics”, other English words suches politician, political, political science, political thoughts, party politics, national politics, politicize, political party and polit-bureau emerged.

Early men knew how to find food and protect their body from insects and weather by wearing clothing made from leaves or animal hides. They lived in caves or places under large trees. The basic requirements for human existence are food, clothing and shelter or social needs. They with their intellectual power tried to fulfill their social needs.

In the later periods, men learnt to know how to build huts. Groups of huts became villages, and when the population grew larger, there emerged towns, and then the city state.

According to the international law, a nation has the right to freely shape its own future for the wellbeing of the country and the people. Myanmar is an independent and sovereign nation. It has the right to freely shape its own future for the wellbeing of the country and the people.

This right is in accordance with the international legal practice and norms, the UN charter and the Bandung principles (of more than 100 non-aligned nations).
Serve the national interest…

(from page 6)

political stage. They are not in the hearts and minds of Myanmar people. This is a good lesson for them. NLD today is seen to be most related to those from outside the nation. It is known to all that NLD has maintained contact through interviews with VOA and BBC. The policy and programme of NLD is described with one word, that is, democracy. In the outset, it was formed with Aung Suu-Tin, the tripartite Aung (U Aung Gyi), Suu (Daw Suu Kyi) and Tin (U Tin Oo). Before long, the Aung group broke away from the party. The leftists (White and Red Communists) also left Daw Suu Kyi group. But Tin group remains firmly with the party. However, political analysts say that it remains so under the command of Daw Suu Kyi and influence of the external elements.

In the early stages of NLD, confrontation concept advocated by Maung Ko Yu (Red Flag) and the concept to defy all laws that they did not like as suggested in the poem of David Thoreau and supported by Maung Thawka and Hanthawady U Win Tin were in vogue. Daw Suu Kyi herself got down to different townships and followed the line of confrontation. But they had gone too far and some NLD youths ended up as fugitives outside the country. As known to all, those from outside give full support to the incidents.

Daw Suu Kyi herself had called for economic sanctions on Myanmar and demanded not to give aid to the country. Moreover, they insisted convening of the Hluttaw, attempted to incite the four nine’s incident. Their involvement in the plots to kill people and explode bombs were carried in the news.

In the news of VOA broadcast at 6 pm on 28-9-05 the US reaffirmed its support of NLD. The US State Department issued a statement on the 17th founding anniversary of NLD. In the statement, it said it would back all the people of the world working for freedom, democracy and human rights of Daw Suu Kyi and the people of Myanmar.

The US government recognizes the founding anniversary of NLD while ignoring the remaining parties although there are ten political parties in the country. Obviously, it shows that it has strong attachments to NLD.

Myanmar today does not accept the Western democracy which stinks of colonialism. It has reconvened the National Convention, the first step of the seven-step Road Map, in order to build a genuine and discipline-flourishing democracy. Everyone desires of serving the national interests need to extend a helping hand most actively while discarding destructive schemes, negative outlooks and party and individual attachments.

Translation: TMT+AK

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YANGON, 24 Oct—The professional level Minkutha marionette drama contest of the 13th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Road for the fifth day this evening. The contest, supervised by Chairperson of the panel of judges Assistant Director (Music) Daw Tin Tin Mya, Secretary Assistant Engineer Daw May Pyone, was held at the multi-functional hall of the National Theatre this morning. A total of 13 contestants from States and Divisions took part in the professional level men’s religious song contest, and 14 in the basic education level song contest at the hall of National Museum.

Fourteen contestants participated in the basic education level (aged 10-15) boys’ piano contest at the National Theatre, three in the basic education level women’s piano contest, and four women in the amateur level women’s piano contest. Competitions of the contestants were supervised by Leader of the panel of judge U Sein Thaung and members.

At Kanbawza Theatre, nine contestants competed in the basic education level (aged 10-15) song composing contest. In the afternoon, 14 participants took part in basic education level song composing contest with the works composed on 14 October. Chairman of the panel of judges Bogale U Tin Aung and party supervised the contest.

The 11th day competition of the music contest was held at Padona Theatre today. Three troupes participated in the professional level Dobut contest, five in the basic education level Dobut contest. Leader of the panel of judges U Sein Ba Maw and party supervised the contest.— MNA
It is necessary to seriously look into the difficulties...

(continued from page 1)

the vice-mayor, the deputy ministers and their wives, Dean of Diplomatic Corps Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines Madame Phoebe A Gomez and ambassadors, Charges d’Affaires a.i. of embassies, diplomats, Resident Coordinator of the UN System Mr. Charles James Petrie, Resident Representatives and officials of UN agencies, heads of departments and enterprises concerned, representatives of social associations, local and foreign journalists, winning students of the 60th Anniversary United Nations Day Commemorative Essay, Poster and Painting Competitions and guests.

Secretary-1 delivered an address. He said: At the outset, I wish to express my pleasure at being with you to celebrate the United Nations Day. The United Nations was founded sixty years ago with the determination to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. Today the Anniversary is celebrated with the theme “A Time for Renewal”.

We are inspired by the achievements of the Organization throughout its long history. When we look back at its record, one cannot deny the vital role of the Organization in international relations. It has served humanity well. The sixtieth anniversary is a milestone in the Organization’s history. The year 2005 is not only the fifth anniversary of the Millennium Summit, but also the 10th anniversary of the Copenhagen World Summit on Sustainable Development, and the Beijing Fourth World Conference on Women.

The anniversaries of these important events remind us of the commitments made by the world leaders. Actually the implementation of the commitments made at different fora are mutually reinforcing.

At the 2005 United Nations Summit, the largest gathering of world leaders in the history of the Organization renewed their commitments to the Charter and the various summit declarations. The 60th Summit Declaration also stressed that reform of the United Nations is imperative.

The Declaration is of crucial importance for the world organization which needs to change in order to adapt to new threats and challenges, and to continue its role as an effective global institution. The success of the process of reform is an important and urgent task for all the member states. The world leaders assessed the progress made towards the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. Leaders from many developing countries called on their counterparts from developed countries to help them achieve a series of development goals, including reducing poverty and fighting HIV/AIDS. Many countries are of the view that to attain the Millennium Development Goals on time, it is necessary to seriously look into the difficulties of the developing countries especially the world’s poorest countries such as Heavily Indebted Poor Countries which cannot achieve the MDGs because of their heavy external debt burden. Diseases such as the HIV/AIDS pandemic are beyond the control of an individual state and therefore needed to be addressed collectively.

The world leaders also recalled the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development at Monterrey, Mexico. They recognize that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes and policies aimed at maximizing development opportunities to countries.

In Myanmar the National Development Plan, which covers the major aspects of the Millennium Development Goals, is being implemented with a view to achieving economic growth and social progress and in promoting the living standard of the people. Border Areas Development Plan has been carried out since 1989. Special Development Zones are designated to narrow the socio-economic gap among the States and the people. Border Areas Development Plan has been carried out since 1989. Special Development Zones are designated to narrow the socio-economic gap among the States and the people.

In Myanmar the National Development Plan, which covers the major aspects of the Millennium Development Goals, is being implemented with a view to achieving economic growth and social progress and in promoting the living standard of the people. The sixtieth anniversary of the United Nations is a milestone in the world organization’s history. It is necessary to seriously look into the difficulties of the developing countries, especially the world’s poorest countries.

Foreign Minister U Nyan Win reads the message of Senior General Than Shwe on the 60th anniversary of United Nations Day.

In Myanmar the National Development Plan, which covers the major aspects of the Millennium Development Goals, is being implemented with a view to achieving economic growth and social progress and in promoting the living standard of the people.
It is necessary to seriously look into the difficulties...

Objectives of USDA, educational...

The outcome of the process of...

**Foreign Minister felicitates Kazakhstan counterpart**

**Yangon, 25 Oct**— U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Kasymzhomart K. Tokayev, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Kazakhstan, which falls on 25 October 2005.

*— MNA*

**FM signs Book of Condolences for the demise of wife of Malaysian PM**

**Yangon, 25 Oct**— Mr Kasymzhomart K. Tokayev, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Prime Minister of Malaysia, at the Embassy of Malaysia, No 82 Pyidaungsu Yeiktha Road, Dagon Township at noon today.

*— MNA*

**Flag presented to mountaineers**

**Yangon, 24 Oct**— A ceremony to present the flag to members of Myanmar Hiking and Mountaineering Association who are to ascend Madew snow mountain in Putao, Kachin State took place at the office of Mandalay Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association in Mandalay on 22 October, attended by Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint.

Also present on the occasion were Chairperson of Mandalay Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association wife of the commander Daw Khin Pyone Win, officials of the Ministry of Sports and Mandalay Division PDC, social organizations and mountaineers.

Next, the minister and officials accepted K 300,000 by Mandalay Division PDC, K 100,000 by the Division MCWA, K 100,000 each by the Division Women’s Affairs Organization and the Division Women’s Sports Federation and K 800,000 by wellwishers for the Hiking and Mountaineering Association.

Next, Secretary of MMHA Dr Khin Shwe presented commemorative pennants to the minister and officials.

A mountaineer expressed thanks and the ceremony ended.—*MNA*

**Hole-in-one**

**Yangon, 25 Oct**— U Ye Htut scored an ace from 143 yards at the No 7th hole at City Golf Resort (Ngwethawda) of YCDD on 22 October morning while playing with golf ball Tour Special No 2 using club Taylar Made Iron-8. Together with him were U Hway Hlaing (Malaymune), U Tin Soe and U Myo Maung.—*MNA*

**Minister for Information receives foreign guests**

**Yangon, 24 Oct**— Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsuan received Mr. Harish Kachroo, Director of NBG EXIM (P) Ltd of India, and Mr. Udomsak Douang Douangchawee chawee, Managing Director of Toptech Millennium Co. Ltd of Thailand at his office at noon and at 12.30 pm today. Also present on the occasions were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein, heads of departments and officials concerned.—*MNA*

**Myanmar and Korean entrepreneurs meet**

**Yangon, 24 Oct**— The meeting between Myanmar and Korean entrepreneurs sponsored by Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Myanmar took place at Sedona Hotel this morning.

Present were Ambassador of ROK Mr. Lee Ju Heum, Commercial Attaché Mr Choi Yoon-tae, entrepreneurs of both countries and officials.

Korean entrepreneurs reported on parts of heavy machinery, iron oxide pigments used in plastics, rubber and paints, electric motors, air compressors, automatic doors, rubber molds and car parts, various kinds of safety and equipment for livestock breeding. Myanmar and Korean entrepreneurs discussed bilateral cooperation.—*MNA*
Seminar on prevention of HIV/AIDS concludes

YANGON, 24 Oct — The seminar on prevention of HIV/AIDS, organized by Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation concluded at BEHS No 2 in Sanyang Town- ship this afternoon.

Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation President Daw Than Than Nwe addressed the conclusion ceremony.

Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Vice-President Khin Thet Htay, heads of department of MWAF and leaders of working groups, regional organizers, joint general secretary and secretariat members, the chairperson and members of Yangon Division WAO, officials of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and guests were also present.

The seminar on prevention of HIV/AIDS held for three days beginning 22 October and a total of 102 trainees attended at the seminar.

MNA

Greening tasks inspected in Magway, Manda- lay Divisions

YANGON, 24 Oct — Director-General of Arid Zone Greening Department of the Ministry of Forestry U Tun Tun and officials inspected neem plantations, growing of trees and tasks for 2006-2007 in Chauk Township, 320 acres of fire- wood and conservation of natural forests in Thabye Protected Forest in Seikphyu Township, greening tasks of Tuyintaung and Ngalinpoktaung in NyaungU Township and other mountains in Myingyan, Kyaukse Townships and sites for growing plants from 20 to 22 October.

The director-general discussed conservation of plantations and assigning duties in meeting with service personnel. — MNA

True Patriotism Billboard unveiled in Myeik

YANGON, 24 Oct — A ceremony to open the Annual General Meeting 2005 of the Taninthayi Division Union Solidar- ity and Development Association was held in conjunction with the opening of the True Patriotism Billboard at the Pale Yadana Hall in Myeik, Taninthayi Divi- sion on 22 October.

It was attended by Patron of Taninthayi Di- vision USDA Chairman of Taninthayi Division PDC Commander of Coastal Region Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, USDA CEC member Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Com- mander Brig-Gen Hon Ngaing, division-level departmental officials, secretaries of division, district and township USDA's and executives, social organizations and guests.

First, an outstanding student formally opened the billboard in front of the Pale Yadana Hall by pressing a but- ton.

This was followed by the first session of the annual general meeting.

Commander Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and Minster Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein made speeches on the occasion.

After giving prizes to outstanding students and athletes, the minister accepted K 2.2 million towards the USDA’s trust fund donated by well-wishers.

Next, the secretary of the Division USDA donated K 1 million for the Women Affairs Or- ganization Maternal and Child Welfare Associa- tion and the War Veterans Organization.

Next, the second session of the meeting followed.

Later, executives of the Division USDA reported on work being carried out in the respec- tive sectors.

The meeting ended with the chanting of slo- gans. — MNA

FEW CIA charges excepted in prisoner deaths

NEW YORK, October 24 — CIA employees or its contract workers appear likely to escape criminal charges in all but one of the deaths of four prisoners in Iraq and Afghanistan, The New York Times reported on Sunday.

Citing current and former intelligence and law enforcement officials who spoke on condition of anonymity, the Times said that federal prosecu- tors reviewing cases of possible misconduct by CIA employees had notified lawyers they did not intend to bring criminal charges in several cases involving the handling of terrorism suspects and Iraqi guerrillas.

While some cases remain under Justice De- partment review, the of- ficials said they had been told the department was not preparing to bring charges against CIA em- ployees in those cases, the Times said.

The sole exception was David Passaro, who while linked to the CIA, was a contract worker, not a CIA officer. He remains the only person charged in any of the cases. Details of the CIA cases and the Justice Department reviews remain classified. The deci- sions are based on re- views of eight dossiers referred to the Justice Department by the CIA’s inspector-general, de- scribing possible miscon- duct by a half-dozen to a dozen CIA employees in the deaths and other cases, the Times said.

MNA/Reuters
CHANT VOY NO (611) are hereby notified that the discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

According to the Hong Kong Observatory, the earthquake measuring 5.9 on the Richter Scale jolted the Sea of Japan at 6:13 p.m. Hong Kong Time (1013 GMT) on Sunday.

The demonstrators, chanting slogans condemning stances of the United States and Britain, voiced their determination to defeat any attempt to “hamper Iran’s civilian nuclear programme”, the report said. “The access to nuclear energy is an inalienable right of every nation,” one of the demonstrators was quoted as saying. — MNA/Xinhua
**Bleach treatment neutralizes mold allergens**

**NEW YORK, 22 Oct**—Treatment with household bleach reduces the allergy-inducing ability of mold spores, a new study shows.

Current efforts to remediate mold-contaminated buildings require replacement of contaminated materials, Dr John W Martyny of the National Jewish Medical and Research Centre in Denver and colleagues note in the Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

Also, the Environmental Protection Agency and many investigators argue that killing mold is not enough to reduce its allergenicity. Dilute sodium hypochlorite is known to kill mold, but it is not clear if it reduces mold’s ability to produce allergic reactions. Martyny and his team conducted the current study, funded by the Clorox Co, to determine if diluted bleach would destroy the ability of mold to produce an allergic response as well as kill the organism. Several studies, they point out, have found bleach can neutralize other types of house-hold allergens, such as dust mite and cockroach pro-teins. The researchers grew Aspergillus fumigatus on samples of three types of construction materials, as well as in solution. The samples and cultures were then treated with diluted bleach. Tilex, a cleaning product containing detergent and bleach, or water only.

The researchers then evaluated the number of spores using scanning electron microscopy and tested for viable mold. They also checked treated samples for antigens using ELISA and skin prick testing.

While bleach or Tilex treatment did not remove the number of spores, surface allergens were no longer detectable in the treated samples. The surface of the spores treated with bleach or Tilex also showed changes in appearance. After adding bleach to the mold in aqueous solution, a fumigatus allergen was no longer detectable by ELISA. — MNA/Reuters

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**S Korea’s KEPCO to build wind power plant in China**

**SEOUL, 22 Oct**—Korea Electric Power Corp (KEPCO) has started work on a wind power plant in China, making it the first foreign electricity firm to enter China’s wind power market, the state-run company said on Friday.

The utility giant, which supplies more than 70 per cent of electricity in South Korea, has been trying to build power plants abroad to secure fresh sources of income. China, the world’s second-biggest energy consumer after the United States, suffered its worst energy crisis in 20 years in the summer of 2004, sparking a new round of power plant construction. KEPCO and its Chinese partner, Datang Corp, held a groundbreaking ceremony early on Friday on the 57.5 million US dollar, 49-mega-watt plant being built in Yumen, a city in the western Gansu Province, KEPCO said in a statement. The wind power plant was expected to take about a year to complete, it added.

The cost of the project would be merthorugh 38.3 million US dollars in loans from Chinese banks and 19.2 million US dollars in paid-in capital, KEPCO said. The Korean power firm would chip in 40 per cent of the paid-in capital, or 7.7 million US dollars, it added. Datang Corp is the parent of Hong Kong’s second-largest listed independent power producer, Datang International Power Generation Co Ltd. KEPCO and Datang also agreed in April to build a five-billion yuan (600 million US dollars) thermal power plant in central China. In the summer of last year, power cuts hit more than two-thirds of China during a heatwave after power capacity had failed to keep up with breakdown economic growth.

The wind power project marked the first time a Korean company had invested in a Clean Development Mechanism project. KEPCO said. The mechanism allows developed countries to acquire carbon dioxide credits by investing in emission-reducing projects in less developed countries that have signed up to the Kyoto Protocol but do not have reduction targets of their own.

Since South Korea does not have reduction targets, KEPCO can sell into the market credits earned from the wind power project.

MNA/Reuters

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**Narcotic use common in Crohn’s disease patients**

**NEW YORK, 22 Oct**—Chronic narcotic use is common in patients with associated increased disease activity and decreased quality of life, according to a study presented by Dr Raymond K Cross, of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, and colleagues.

Narcotic use was identified in 28 (13.1 per cent) patients. Narcotic users were more likely to be older and female. Patients who used narcotics were also more likely to have higher rates of disability from Crohn’s disease patients. The researchers grew A. fumigatus allergens were no longer detectable in the treated samples. The surface of the spores treated with bleach or Tilex also showed changes in appearance. After adding bleach to the mold in aqueous solution, a fumigatus allergen was no longer detectable by ELISA. — MNA/Reuters

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**Chinese businessman books quick getaway in space**

**BEIJING, 22 Oct** — A Chinese man has paid 100,000 US dollars for a 90-minutes voyage that will make him China’s first tourist in space, the China Daily said on Friday.

Jiang Fang, president of a Hong Kong company that acts as the China agent for US-based space tourism firm Space Adventures, would experience zero gravity on one of the company’s sub-orbital flights due to one of the company’s second-manned space mission, the Shenzhou VI, on Monday and could spike again when a television show offering an insider’s view of the national space program hits screens this month. — MNA/Reuters

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**At least four dead as storms sweep southeast Italy**

**BARI, (Italy), 23 Oct**—At least four people were killed as torrential rain battered south-eastern Italy overnight, demolishing a bridge and derailing a Eurostar train, police said on Sunday.

Three members of a family were killed as their car plunged into a ravine when a bridge collapsed near Bari, the capital of the Apulia region, while south of the city a man drowned as his car was swept away by a flood of water and mud.

Early on Sunday, at least 15 people were injured when six carriages of a Taranto to Milan Eurostar train were derailed as a landside swept away earth beneath the rail tracks, leaving the wagons overhanging a chasm. — MNA/Reuters

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MNA/Reuters

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**SPORTS**

**Chelsea held by Everton, Emre fires Newcastle**

**LONDON, 24 Oct**— Chelsea dropped their first points of the season when they were held to a surprise 1-1 draw at bottom club Everton on Sunday.

James Beattie put Everton ahead in the 35th minute but Frank Lampard equalized just after halftime to extend the champions’ unbeaten run to 39 league matches and keep them nine points clear at the top of the table. A brilliant free kick by Turkish midfielder Emre Belozoglu earned Newcastle United a 3-2 win over northeast neighbours Sunderland. West Ham United beat Middlesbrough 2-1 and Bolton Wanderers defeated West Bromwich Albion 2-0 in Sunday’s other games.

Everton were dreaming of only their second win of the season when striker Beattie converted a penalty following a foul on Tim Cahill by Chelsea winger Shaun Wright-Phillips.

England midfielder Lampard continued his prolific scoring form, however, with a clinical 29-metre strike five minutes after halftime.

Chelsea dominated possession for the rest of the match but were unable to break down a disciplined Everton defence except when striker Didier Drogba had an effort ruled out for offside.

The draw ended Chelsea’s nine-match winning streak since the start of the season, two short of Tottenham Hotspur’s record.

Newcastle and Sunderland were level after four goals in seven minutes before halftime.

Shola Ameobi twice put Newcastle in front with headers but Sunderland hit back through Liam Lawrence and Stephen Elliott. The derby game was heading for a draw until Emre struck in the 63rd minute, curling the ball round the wall from 25 metres.

Elliott nearly equalized again six minutes from time when his deft lob struck the crossbar but Newcastle hung on to claim a 12th in the table. Sunderland stayed one place off the bottom, a point ahead of Everton.

 Substitute Teddy Sheringham put West Ham ahead on 66 minutes and a Chris Biggott own goal doubled the hosts’ lead before Franck Queudrue headed a late consolation for Middlesbrough. —**MNA/Reuters**

**Late equalizer rescues Hamburg from defeat**

**BERLIN, 24 Oct**— Piotr Trochowski scored a late equalizer to salvage Hamburg SV a 1-1 draw at Borussia Dortmund and strengthen the north German side’s hold on third place in the Bundesliga on Sunday.

Germany defender Christoph Metzelder headed in a cross to put Dortmund in front in the 58th minute before Trochowski, filling in for suspended playmaker Rafael van der Vaart, levelled the score from long distance in the 74th minute.

Trochowski, a former Bayern Munich youth team player, also scored in Hamburg’s victory over Bayern last month.

Off to their best start in decades, Hamburg suffered their first lost of the season last week at home against VfL Wolfsburg. They are third in the table with 21 points from 10 matches, three points clear of fourth-placed Schalke. —**MNA/Reuters**

**Disputed penalty hands PSV 1-0 win over Ajax**

EINDHOVEN (Netherlands), 24 Oct— Timmy Simons converted a disputed penalty in the 10th minute to hand PSV Eindhoven a 1-0 victory over Ajax Amsterdam in the Dutch First Division on Sunday. PSV moved top with 22 points from nine matches, one more than Feyenoord who visit RKC Waalwijk later in the day.

AZ Alkmaar, who will be at home to Willem II Tilburg, are third on 18 points. Ajax remained fifth, eight points behind leaders.

Referee Pieter Vink awarded the home team’s penalty when Jefferson Farfan went down under a challenge from Urby Emanuelson and Belgian international Simons converted from the spot.

“The story of this match is the referee’s decision after 10 minutes,” Ajax coach Danny Blind told reporters.

“I can live with it when we are the worse side in a match but this time it proved decisive. We had some good spells and created chances but lacked the precision to convert them.”

Ajax, who started with a 4-4-2 formation with Ryan Babel as central striker and Mauro Rosales on the right wing, created their first chance midway through the opening half. Emanuelson broke through on the left but his cross was knocked over by Babel. —**MNA/Reuters**

**Answers to Sunday’s Crossword Puzzle**

*WEDDING WREN*  
*AUGUST LAUNDER*  
*GAUGE LAUNDER*  
*REGULAR DRAKE*  
*BADGER DODGE*  
*ELDER NOISE REFUGE*  
*ENIGMA Am*  
*FONDANT TENSE*  
*TAROT DEDUCED*  

*PARIS, 24 Oct*— Monaco slumped to their first Ligue 1 defeat in five games when they were beaten 2-1 at struggling Sochaux on Sunday.

The team from the principality slipped to ninth in the standings with 17 points from 12 games and trail leaders Olympique Lyon by 13 points.

Lyon thrashed bottom club Metz 4-0 on Saturday.

Promoted Le Mans continued their promising start to the season with a 2-0 win over Racing Strasbourg 2-0. Goals from midfielders Yohan Hautecoeur and Daisuke Matsui helped the side to move up to fifth on 19 points.

Strasbourg, who have not won a game this season, remain second from bottom with just six points.

Sochaux went ahead after nine minutes through Brazilian striker Araujo Ilan, who collected a pass from midfielder Philippe Brunel before dribbling past Monaco goalkeeper Guillaume Warmuz and slotting the ball into the net. —**MNA/Reuters**

**CHAMP Car driver Sebastien Bourdais of France kisses his trophy after his second successive Champ Car world title when he won the Australian round of the series on the Gold Coast at Surfer’s Paradise, Australia on 23 Oct, 2005.** —**INTERNET**

**Monaco suffer first Ligue 1 defeat in five games**

**A French team runs with their country flags on their heads in the 42 kilometers Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon in Nairobi, Kenya on 23 Oct, 2005. Over 12,000 runners from all parts of the world participated in the richest sporting event in Kenya with a top cash prize of US$40,000. —INTERNET**

**Stephane Sarrazin of France steers his Subaru Impreza during the 26.20 km fourth special stage Ucciani - Bastelica of the second leg of the 2005 World Championship Tour of Corsica rally on 22 October, 2005. Sebastien Loeb of France is the current leader of the race. —INTERNET**
“NY Times” reporter in CIA case criticized in paper

NEW YORK, 23 Oct — A reporter for The New York Times came under sharp criticism in the pages of her own newspaper on Saturday, over her conduct related to a probe into the outing of a CIA operative.

The Times’ executive editor was quoted in the paper as saying reporter Judith Miller appeared to have misled it about her role in the controversy, and a top columnist suggested the Times’ reputation would be endangered if she returned from leave to her old job.

“If that were to happen, the institution most in danger would be the newspaper in your hands,” columnist Maureen Dowd wrote in the Times, one of the most influential US newspapers.

The criticism contrasts with the paper’s solid support for Miller as she spent 85 days in jail rather than testify before a grand jury, and it comes days before possible indictments of White House officials in the leak case. Prosecutors are investigating who leaked the identity of CIA operative Valerie Plame to the media after her diplomat husband, Joseph Wilson, accused the administration of US President George W Bush of twisting intelligence on Iraq.

The Times quoted executive editor Bill Keller as saying, in a memo to staff on Friday, that Miller “seems to have misled” the newspaper about being on the “receiving end of the anti-Wilson whisper campaign.”

Keller said he wished he had insisted, once Miller had been subpoenaed as a witness in the case, on learning more about her role.

He also said if he had known the details of her “entanglement” with a senior White House aide whose identity she sought to protect, he may have been more willing to explore a compromise and would have taken more care in voicing the newspaper’s defence.

Furthermore, Keller said The Times had been hurt by delays in “coming clean” over lapses in its reporting that supported US allegations of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction, much of which was written by Miller.

WEATHER

Monday, 24 October, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Kachin State and Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan State and Taninthayi Division, isolated in Chin and Kayin States, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas with isolated heavy falls in Lower Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Bhamo (2.52) inches, Katha (2.40) inches, Mogok (2.28) inches, Lashio (1.97) inches, Kanbalu (1.85) inches, Minkin (1.81) inches, Myitkyina (1.30) inches and Shwebo (1.14) inches.

Maximum temperature on 23-10-2005 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 24-10-2005 was 71°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 24-10-2005 was 85%. Total sunshine hours on 23-10-2005 was (8.5) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 24-10-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2005 were (97.40) at Mingaladon, (97.44) inches at Kaba-Aye and (101.85) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (10) mph from Southeast at (12:04) hours MST on 23-10-2005.


Weather will be partly cloudy in Kayin and Mon States, Ayeyawady Division, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Kachin and Shan States, Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions 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 the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 25-10-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 25-10-2005: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Earthquake report

(Issue at 23:30 hour MST on 23-10-2005)

An earthquake of moderate intensity (6.0) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside of Myanmar about (1670) miles Northwest of Mandalay seismological observatory, (85-miles North of Islamabad, Pakistan) was recorded at (21 hrs) (38 min) (24 sec) MST on 23rd October, 2005.

* R 489

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Myanmar today does not accept the West-designed democracy which stinks of colonialism. It has reconvened the National Convention, the first step of the seven-step Road Map, in order to build a genuine and discipline-flourishing democracy. Everyone desirous of serving the national interests need to extend a helping hand most actively while discarding destructive schemes, negative outlooks and party and individual attachments.

Prime Minister felicitates Kazakhstan counterpart

YANGON, 25 Oct—General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Daniyal Akhmetov, Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Kazakhstan, which falls on 25 October 2005.—MNA

Objectives of USDA, educational activities and health care services briefed

Residents in Hlegu Township receive free medical treatment

YANGON, 24 Oct—The medical team of Yangon Division Health Department today gave free medical treatment to residents in Hlegu Township in cooperation with Yangon Division Union Solidarity and Development Association.

The team comprises ears and nose specialists, orthopaedic specialists, dentists, obstetricians and gynaecologists, generalists and traditional practitioners.

Local residents in villages in Hlegu Township received health care treatment this morning at Basic Education High School (Branch) at Ngasudaung Village in Hlegu Township.

Central Executives Committee Members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thien Lin, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee, Deputy Chairman Deputy Mayor Col Maung Pa, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and officials this morning went to Ngasudaung Village in Hlegu Township, and inspected the health care services provided to local residents and regional development tasks.

They also inspected booths for medical knowledge displayed at the school in Ngausau Village. Altogether 914 residents received medical treatment. While 108 patients are in Yangon General Hospital, Yangon Division USDA will render assistance to them.

The minister and USDA CEC members also attended a ceremony to establish the Phyomitta Health Care Association and presented cash assistance amounting to 1 million for the association through an official.

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U PWAY KYAW