Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Take part in XXIII South-East Asia Games with strong determination

Today is the time when unprecedented progress has been made in the field of international sports meets.

The government is at present taking systematic measures for uplift of sports standard of the country in accordance with one of the social objectives—uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation. In the meantime, the entire people are desirous of expressing dignity of the nation and the people after gaining victories in international sports meets.

The XXIII South-East Asia Games will be held in Manila, the Philippines, from 27 November to 5 December 2005. Myanmar sports contingent that will take part in the games are now undergoing intensive training in order to bring glory to the nation.

A ceremony to present the State Flag to Myanmar sports contingent that will be participating in the XXIII South-East Asia Games was held at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thingangyun Township on 14 November.

Chairman of Myanmar National Olympic Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein addressed the ceremony and presented the State Flag to the leader of Myanmar sports contingent.

In his address, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said that many athletes have gained experiences of international competitions; that some athletes are given training abroad while some are provided with training in the nation with foreign coaches; and that the athletes on their part are to try their utmost to win victories with zeal, perseverance, strong determination, firm dedication and ardent patriotism.

While the government is striving for uplift of the sports standard, governmental departments, businessmen, social organizations, wellwishers, literati and artists of performing arts are rendering a supportive hand to the athletes. Such supports and encouragement are effective and useful to the athletes to win victories in the international sports competitions.

At a time when efforts are being made for development of the sports sector, the athletes are to try their best to enhance prestige of the State.

Winning victories in the international sports meets amounts to enhancing the national prestige and integrity. With this concept, the athletes are to take part in the XXIII South-East Asia Games with firm determination in order to gain gold medals most in every event.

Rubber grafting course concludes

Yangon, 15 Nov—The conclusion of the course on rubber grafting conducted for the families of the regiments and units under No 11 Light Infantry Division took place in Yemon on 13 November.

Commanding Officer Brig-Gen Hla Htay Win of No 11 LID delivered a speech and observed the demonstration presented by the trainees.

All 65 family members completed the two-week course. The division put 550 acres under rubber in 2005, and is making arrangements to grow 550 acres of rubber in 2006. He inspected the agriculture and livestock breeding farms of the division and provided assistance. — MNA

People’s Desire

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

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe offers Kathina robes to Pali Tekkatho Nyaungdon Monastery

Yangon, 14 Nov—A ceremony to offer Kathina robes by Pariyatti Sanana Pala Association of Pali Tekkatho Nyaungdon Monastery was held at its venue, Bahan Township yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were State Ovadacariya Agga Maha Pandita Abhidhaja Maharatha Guru Presiding Sayadaw of Pali Takketho Nyaungdon Monastery Bhaddanta Sobhana and members of Sangha, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe, No 4 Military Region Commander Lt-Col Khin Maung Tun, Chairman of Yangon West District PDC Lt-Col Kyaw Tint, local authorities, wellwishers, disciples and guests.

First, the ceremony was opened with three-time recitation of Namo Tassa. Next, the congregation received the Five Precepts from Presiding Sayadaw of Pali Takkatho Nyaungdon Monastery Bhaddanta Sobhana. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and officials concerned offered Kathina robes and alms to Presiding Sayadaw of Pali Takkatho Nyaungdon Monastery Bhaddanta Sobhana and members of Sangha. After that, the congregation shared the merits gained. — MNA

Commander Lt-Gen Myint Swe offers Kathina robes to a Sayadaw. — MNA

Shwe Htidaw hoisted atop Pantabwinttaung Pagoda

Yangon, 14 Nov—A ceremony to hoist Htidaw atop Pantabwinttaung Pagoda in Taikkyi Township, Yangon Division, was held in conjunction with a ceremony to offer Kathina robes this morning. Members of the Sangha led by Panyawewin Pagoda said Sayadaw Saddhama Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Pannasara graced the ceremony with their presence. Also present were members of the Pantabwinttaung Board of Trustees, Htidaw and Seinbudaw donors U Aung Myo, Daw Khin Thu Zar and family, wellwishers and guests.

Donor U Aung Myo offered the religious objects to Sayadaw Saddhama Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Pannasara and wellwishers alms and offertories.

After hoisting the Htidaw atop the pagoda, performing of rituals of golden and silver shower followed. Next, Kathina robes offering ceremony was held. The Sayadaw delivered a sermon followed by sharing of merits gained. — MNA

Stake driving ceremony held

Yangon, 14 Nov—A ceremony to drive stake to build Tazaung for PhaungdawU Buddha Image in Insein Township took place this morning. The ceremony was graced by the presence of members of the Sangha led by member of State Central Working Committee for Members of the Sangha Mahamyaing Kyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Suriya, Chairman Sayadaw of Township Sangha Nayaka Conference Sayadaw Bhaddanta Pandita, Presiding of Zegon Paryatti Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kusala, Myothit Kyaung Sayadaw Maha Saddhama Jotikadhaja Bhaddata Pannavara and PhaungdawU Dhammayon Kyaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Varaminda. Also present were Chairman of Yangon North Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Myat Min and officials, Chairman of the Board of Trustee U Aung Ko Latt and members and wellwishers.

The congregation offered ‘moon’ to the members of the Sangha. Next, Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Suriya delivered a sermon. Afterwards, the chairman of the District PDC and officials drove the stake followed by the performing of golden and silver showers. — MNA

U Aung Ko Latt driving the stake at the stake-driving ceremony. — MNA
Asian countries refuse to be assimilated by Western culture

FOSHAN (Guangdong), 14 Nov—Cultural ministers from 22 Asian countries have signed a declaration, vowing to preserve their own traditional culture and refuse to be assimilated by Western culture.

At the just concluded Asia Cultural Ministerial Forum and the ongoing 7th Asia Arts Festival, Asian cultural ministers made discussions on how to preserve culture diversity amid globalization.

Many ministers expressed their concerns on the excessive influence by Western culture to Asia's young people.

In their opinions, some pessimism signs have shown, such as young people in Asian countries got accustomed to celebrate Valentine's Day, but forgot those traditional festivals in their countries. Hollywood movies were often shown globally and reaped remarkable amount of box office revenue in Asia, but many traditional art troupes in Asian countries were faced with bankrupt or even extinction.

Lee Boon Yang, Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts of Singapore said Asian countries should open doors to absorb advanced culture from the West, but should not be excessively influenced or even assimilated by the Western culture, because culture is a country's unique symbol.

Sri Hastanto, Director-General for Cultural Value, Arts and Film under the Department of Culture and Tourism of Indonesia said though cultural difference could not bring fortune, it is part of fortune.

“It is necessary for us to conduct cultural communication, but could not let Western influence by Western culture."

In order to preserve traditional culture and maintain cultural diversity, all the Asian countries are making strenuous efforts.

Sun Jiazheng, Chinese Minister of Culture said the Chinese Government has set up a special fund to save those traditional arts, which are on the brink of extinction and help the artisans and handicraftsmen who had gave up their techniques to resume their old professions.

Former US V-P candidate regrets support for Iraq war

WASHINGTON, 14 Nov—Former US senator John Edwards, the Democratic nominee for Vice-President in 2004, said on Sunday that he made "a mistake" in supporting the Iraq war.

"I was wrong," Edwards said in an opinion piece of the Washington Post, in a move likely to be seen as to reposition himself ahead of a 2008 presidential bid.

"Almost three years ago we went into Iraq to remove what we were told — and what many of us believed and argued — was a threat to America. But in fact we now know that Iraq did not have weapons of mass destruction when our forces invaded Iraq in 2003," he said. "The intelligence was deeply flawed and, in some cases, manipulated to fit a political agenda," said Edwards, breaking with his campaign stance on the Iraq war. — MNA/Xinhua

Car bomb kills 6 in Karachi

KARACHI, 15 Nov—A car bomb killed at least 6 people on Tuesday in the southern Pakistan city of Karachi in an attack most likely aimed at KFC restaurant, police and ambulance crew said.

A government spokesman said at least four people died and several were injured, some seriously, but he said information was still coming in from the scene.

An Ambulance crew member for the Edhi Foundation, Pakistan’s largest charity, told Reuters six bodies were taken to hospital. The car bomb exploded outside the KFC outlet in downtown Karachi around 9 am local time, gutting the restaurant and shattering the windows of a nearby six-storey office block housing several oil & gas exploration firms.

This is an act of terrorism and apparently the KFC was the target," said Manzoor Mujahil, chief of investigation for Karachi police. — MNA/Reuters

Tornadoes hit central US, killing at least one

WASHINGTON, 14 Nov—Tornadoes hit Iowa of the United States on Saturday afternoon, killing at least one person and injuring two, according to reports reaching here. Authorities said, at least three tornadoes swept central Iowa, destroying at least two dozen homes in Stratford, a town 80 kilometres northwest of Des Moines, capital of Iowa, and about 30 homes in Woodward, a town 48 kilometres to the south of the capital.

The tornado sweeping across Ames also caused an emergent evacuation in a football stadium full of fans for the Iowa State-Colorado game. Windows of the stadium were smashed and power lines collapsed, said city spokeswoman Susan Gwiasda. According to records, tornadoes are seldom in the United States in this late period of the year. However, 22 people lost their lives in another November tornado attacking western Kentucky and Southwest Indiana last weekend. — MNA/Xinhua

Beijing, Manila sign agreement to establish friendly relations

MANILA, 14 Nov—The Chinese capital city of Beijing and the Philippine capital city of Manila on Monday signed an agreement to establish friendly relations between the two cities.

Visiting Beijing Mayor Wang Qishan and Manila Mayor Lito Atienza signed the agreement which calls for more exchanges and cooperation between the two cities in the fields of economy, culture, education, city construction, sports and health and sanitation.

Wang said at the signing ceremony that he was deeply impressed by the warm reception given to him by the outstanding people of Manila. He also praised Mayor Atienza for his distinguished leadership of the city.

Wang said Beijing and Manila share many common features and both of them are making achievements in their economic and social development.

He expressed his confidence that the two cities will further strengthen their relations through more exchanges and bilateral visits of personnel.

MNA/Xinhua

Third phase of “GAM” weapons decommissioning begins

JAKARTA, 14 Nov—Separatist Free Aceh Movement (GAM) rebels in Indonesia’s Aceh Province are set to surrender 200 more weapons starting on Monday as part of a peace deal to end its 29 years of fighting with the government, the Jakarta Post reported on Monday.

The rebels will hand in weapons in Aceh Jaya, West Aceh, Nagan Raya, Aceh Baratdaya and South Aceh regencies until Thursday, the paper quoted the Aceh Monitoring Mission as saying.

A peace deal signed in Finland in August calls for more exchanges and cooperation between the two cities.

The rebels have already handed in 570 weapons, and the Indonesian Government has pulled out 12,000 of 24,000 troops. Three earlier attempts have failed to end the Aceh war, which has claimed 15,000 lives so far.

However, peace efforts picked up speed after the massive earthquake and tsunami struck the area on 26 December, 2004, killing over 131,000 people in the province and leaving half a million others homeless.

MNA/Xinhua

The New Light of Myanmar, Wednesday, 16 November, 2005

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MNA/Reuters

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Xinhua
**Chinese President calls for expanding Sino-Spanish cooperation**

**BEIJING, 14 Nov—** Chinese President Hu Jintao said on Sunday that China attaches great importance to expanding mutually beneficial cooperation with Spain in the interests of both peoples.

In a written statement issued upon his arrival here for a two-day state visit, Hu highlighted Spain’s long history, splendid culture and remarkable contribution to the progress of human civilization.

The friendly exchanges between Chinese and Spanish peoples date back to a long time ago and the political relations between the two countries have become increasingly strong since the establishment of bilateral ties 32 years ago, Hu said.

The bilateral economic and trade cooperation has been fruitful and contacts and exchanges in all fields have steadily been boosted, said the President.

China attaches great importance to developing relations with Spain and is ready to further strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation in the interests of both peoples, he said.

Hu said that he would exchange views on the issues of common concern with Spanish leaders and meet representatives from various circles in Spain before he winds up his visit here on Tuesday.

Spain is the third leg of Hu’s four-nation European-Asian trip, which has already taken him to Britain and Germany. Hu will visit South Korea and attend the Economic Leaders’ Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) slated for 18-19 November in Busan. — MNA/Xinhua

**Experts say unfair to blame China on oil price soaring**

**BEIJING, 14 Nov—** Experts attending the China-Monterrey Energy Roundtable 2005 said here on Sunday that there are a dozen of factors contributing to the current surging oil price and it is unfair to blame China solely.

Professor Subroto, Chairman of the Foundation of Indonesian Institute for Energy Economics, said that different from oil crisis occurred in last century that were caused by disruption of supply, the current soaring oil price are caused by demand increase with increasing economic activity worldwide.

Moreover, the small excess capacity of major oil producers and political factors are also important factors contributing to the current soaring oil price, he said.

However, Subroto believed that the oil price will somewhat fall with more investment in the industry and more supply.

But it could definitely say that the era of 25 US dollars per barrel will not come back, said Ali Al-Muhareb, Vice-President, Corporate Planning of Saudi Aramco, said that there is no physical shortage of oil even when the oil price has been hovering at some 60 US dollars per barrel. — MNA/Xinhua

**DeLay informed about campaign fund transfers**

**WASHINGTON, 14 Nov—** Former US House Majority Leader Tom DeLay was informed about and expressed his support in 2002 for transfers of 190,000 US dollars in mostly corporate funds from his Texas political committee to an arm of the Republican National Committee in Washington and then back to Texas, The Washington Post reported on Friday.

DeLay, who has been indicted on three charges — conspiracy concerning campaign finance, money laundering and conspiracy to commit money laundering, made the acknowledgment during a meeting on 17 August this year with Texas persecutor Ronnie Earle, the Post quoted anonymous sources as saying.

In late September, the Post reported, DeLay’s lawyers tried unsuccessfully to head off felony criminal indictments against him on charges of violating Texas campaign law by signaling that DeLay might plead guilty to a misdemeanor.

**American tourist killed by elephant in S Africa**

**JOHANNESBURG, 14 Nov—** An American tourist was trampled to death by an elephant in South Africa’s northeastern province of Limpopo last week, the South African Press Association reported on Sunday.

Thirty-one-year old Loren Mummy, who was born in South Africa but left when she was 18, was on a visit to the Welgevonden game farm with two friends from Scotland, local police spokesperson Ronel Otto was quoted as saying.

**One killed as British train collides with car**

**LONDON, 14 Nov—** One person was killed on Sunday when a train struck a car at a level crossing in Norfolk, eastern England, police said.

A spokesman for Norfolk police said the driver of the car was killed and the train driver was treated for shock. No one else was injured in the incident.

He said the car was pushed down the line for some time before the train eventually came to a halt.

An investigation has been launched into why the car was on the railway track at the time, he said. — MNA/Reuters

**Iran rejects fresh US claim on atomic weapons work**

**TEHERAN, 14 Nov—** Iran on Sunday dismissed fresh US allegations about its atomic ambitions as a bid to blight a crucial meeting of the UN nuclear watchdog later this month.

US officials said new evidence suggested Iran had made significant progress in what they call its secret pursuit of nuclear weapons, and that this strengthened the case for more international pressure on Teheran to end the programme.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi rejected the allegations as an attempt to ratchet up pressure on Teheran.

“It is another fuss ahead of the IAEA board meeting to poison the board’s atmosphere,” he told a news conference.

The International Atomic Energy Agency board meets on 24 November to decide whether to refer Iran to the UN Security Council for possible sanctions after failing to convince world powers that its atomic ambitions are entirely peaceful.

The New York Times reported on Saturday that senior American intelligence officials informed the IAEA in mid-July about the contents of what they said was a stolen Iranian laptop computer.

One US official said the data was not definitive, but “strongly suggestive that Iran had made significant advancement toward weaponization”.

Sources close to the IAEA confirmed that CIA officials had made a presentation at the agency’s Vienna Headquarters in July, but said the evidence was not clear-cut.

MNA/Reuters

**Iraqi soldiers secure the site of a mortar attack on an apartment block in Baghdad on 14 Nov, 2005. There were no casualties from the attack, soldiers said. — INTERNET**

**A Cambodian boat header prays before the start of the annual water and boat racing festival at the Mekong River in Phnom Penh on 15 Nov, 2005. — INTERNET**
Pakistan, India start confidence building process

DIHAKA, 14 Nov—Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz said here on Sunday that his country has started a process of confidence building with India last year and are exploring ways for “conflict resolution” instead of “conflict management”.

“Anest deficit was still there in the ties of the two mighty neighbours in South Asia ... but the matrix of Pakistan-India relationship is such that any dialogue or talks can resolve the bilateral conflicts,” Aziz said at a function of the senior newsmen of Bangladesh on Sunday.

Aziz termed the confidence building process “a step by step block building exercise”, saying his meeting with Indian Prime Minister Singh made a headway towards that process.

The process, Aziz said, began between the two rivals last year after the Janu-
ary 2004 SAARC (South Asian Association for Re-
gional Cooperation) Summit in Islamabad, when Pak-


the peace process in the region, we must talk about border affairs, and any set-
telement can be possible only through the consensus of three stake holders India, Pakistan.”

The Pakistani leader identified bilateral conflicts as the “stumbling blocks” for the progress of the South Asian economic grouping the SAARC during the past two decades despite tremendous poten-
tials, but hastened to add that SAARC was expected to get a dynamism in its reform issues in the 13th Summit.

MNA/Xinhua

Manila opposes transfer of US troops in rape case

MANILA, 14 Nov—Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo ordered state prosecutors on Friday to oppose any effort to move six US troops accused of gang-raping a Filipino woman out of the country.

Philippine prosecutors issued subpoenas early this week to question the sol-
diers after a Filipino woman complained she was gang-raped in a van inside a former US Navy base northwest of the capi-
tal Manila.

Philippine Justice Sec-
retary Raul Gonzales said President Arroyo had called him. “She told me that we will not agree to transferring them outside the Philippines,” he said.

Gonzales said the President had ordered pro-
spectors to “protect the dig-
ity of the country” in han-
dling the rape case, aware of growing public senti-
ment against US troops in the country. The soldiers, who have not been charged with any offence, remain in US custody in the Phi-


the Iraqis themselves are areas of activity in for-
military exercises ended.

Officials of the Subic
Bay Metropolitan Autho-


2006. But he warned
that an immediate with-
drawal of multinational forces would be a “catas-
trophe” for Iraq and would

lead to civil war.

“It’s completely con-
sistent with what I’ve said, which is that we will stay in Iraq until the job is done. That job will be done when the Iraqis themselves are capable of taking their own security into their own hands.”

MNA/Xinhua

Thailand produces 1.15 mn cars this year

BANGKOK, 14 Nov—Thailand’s vehicle mak-


ners have produced 1.15 million cars this year, ex-
ceeding the planned pro-
duction target by 15 per-
cent, the Thai News
Agency reported on Sun-
day. Thai Deputy Prime

Minister and Commerce Minister Somkid Jatusripitak praised the car-

makers for their progress when he toured car fac-
tories in the eastern seaboard provinces of Chonburi and Rayong, the news agency said.

Of the 1.15 million cars manufactured in Thailand this year, 700,000 were for the domestic market and 450,000 for export, generating 330 billion baht (8.25 billion US dollars) in earnings.

MNA/Xinhua

Reid confirms British troops could begin to pull out of Iraq in ’06

LONDON, 14 Nov—British Defence Secretary John Reid confirmed on Sunday that British troops could begin to pull out of Iraq next year.

His comments on Sky News followed the remarks of Iraqi President Jalal Talabani that his people did not want foreign troops to remain indefinitely.

Talabani said home-
grown troops should be ready to take over from British forces in the south-
ern provinces by the end of 2006. But he warned that an immediate with-
drawal of multinational forces would be a “catas-
trophe” for Iraq and would

lead to civil war.

“This was absolutely con-
sistent with what I’ve said, which is that we will stay in Iraq until the job is done. That job will be done when the Iraqis themselves are capable of taking their own security into their own hands.”

MNA/Xinhua
Under the directives of Vaclav Havel and Desmond Tutu was a report on Myanmar affairs dated 20 September 2005, the statements of which are in contrary with prevailing situations of remarkable development in Myanmar enjoying peace and stability. In the report, the two men call on the United Nations Security Council to act against Myanmar as she is posing threat to regional peace and security. Destructive elements with negative views and anti-government groups are loudly voicing their support for the report. Myanmar, a member of ASEAN, plays an active role in the ASEAN affairs and cooperates with the member countries. It has been able to make sustainable progress in constructive relations with her neighbours and regional nations. Even if Myanmar affairs are posing dangers to peace and security, the nations that are to be worried over and fear the threats should be her neighbouring and regional nations. It is sure that there is something wrong with the demands of the nations that are quite far from Myanmar, and that in a like a Myanmar saying “The unconcerned worries more than the concerned. The report was designed to launch political attacks on the nation and to harm the ASEAN principles.

The first ASEAN Summit held in 1976 reached an agreement on friendship and cooperation, and it prescribed the following principles as directives in relations among the member nations.

1. Mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national identity of all nations;
2. The right of every State to lead its national sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity and national identity of all nations;
3. Non-interference in the internal affairs of one another;
4. Settlement of differences or disputes by peaceful means;
5. Renunciation of the threat or use of force;
6. Effective cooperation among themselves.

Thanks to the adherence to the principles, the members have been able to hold discussions and build mutual trust and reliance among them. So, since the birth of the ASEAN, the disputes and tensions among the member have never grown to armed conflicts.

In respect of the conception on international relations and human rights of the People’s Republic of China, a close friend of ASEAN nations, the nation said that it calls for boosting international cooperation within the frame of human rights based on the principle to find out mutual understanding and similarities and to put aside differences. However, any nations should not disregard respective historic backgrounds and prevailing political, economic and cultural situations of other nations on the track of achieving and preserving human rights. Moreover, sovereign nations need to profoundly recognize and safeguard human rights through pre-scription of domestic laws. As pointed out in the resolutions of the 45th General Assembly, every nation has rights to adopt their political, social, economic and cultural policies and to promote these sectors on their own. The resolution of the 46th UN General Assembly also pointed out that there could not be the only development system that was appropriate for all cultures and peoples. It is improper and impossible to make comments and to put pressure on other nations to copy its policy, prescribing its policy as if it were the model standard.

So, the major aims and movements of international human rights preservation shall contribute towards regular cooperation, reconciliation of nations, mutual understanding and respects within the frame of international human rights. It should be taken into consideration various political, economic and social systems, different background histories, faiths, and views of the nations with own cultures, about human rights. In the process, steps should be taken based on the spirit of finding out similarities, ignoring differences, mutual respects, enhancing of understanding, and strengthening cooperation.

Modern political science says that human societies create own histories. They cannot do in conformity with the wishes and circumstances the people favour, but with the situations handed down in the past.

That was given witness by the speech of Thurgood Marshall who served for the US Supreme Court for 24 years and was influential at the San Francisco Patent and Trademark Law Association’s annual seminar, held in Maui, Hawaii in 1987.

He said, “I do not believe that the meaning of the Constitution was forever "fixed" at the Philadelphia Convention. Nor do I find the wisdom, foresight, and sense of justice exhibited by the Framers particularly profound. To the contrary, the government they devised was defective from the start, requiring several amendments, a civil war, and momentous social transformation to attain the system of constitutional government, and its respect for the individual freedoms and human rights, we hold as fundamental today.

He added, "For a sense of the evolving nature of the Constitution we need look no further than the first three words of the document's preamble: "We the People." When the Founding Fathers used this phrase in 1787, they did not have in mind the majority of America's citizens. "We the People," included, in the words of the Framers, "the whole Number of free Persons." On a matter so basic as the right to vote, for example, Negro slaves were excluded, although they were counted for representational purposes at three-fifths each. Women did not gain the right to vote for over a hundred and thirty years.

"These omissions were intentional. The record of the Framers' debates on the slave question is especially clear: The Southern States acceded to the demands of the New England States for giving Congress broad power to regulate commerce, in exchange for the right to continue the slave trade. The economic interests of the regions coalesced: New Englanders en- ergized the "carrying trade" would profit from transporting slaves from Africa as well as goods produced in America by slave labor. The perpetua- tion of slavery ensured the primary source of wealth in the Southern States, he said.

"And so, nearly seven decades after the Constitu- tional Convention, the Supreme Court reaffirmed the prevailing opinion of the Framers regarding the rights of Negroes in America. It took a bloody civil war before the 13th Amendment could be adopted to abolish slavery, though not the consequences slav- ery would have for future Americans, he said.

"And so we must be careful, when focusing on the events which took place in Philadelphia two centuries ago, that we not overlook the momentous events which followed, and thereby lose our proper sense of perspective. Otherwise, the odds are that for many Americans the bicentennial celebration will be little more than a blind pilgrimage to the shrine of the original document now stored in a vault in the National Archives.

"If we seek, instead, a sensitive understanding of the Constitution's inherent defects, and its prom- ising evolution through 200 years of history, the celebration of the "Miracle at Philadelphia" will, in my view, be a far more meaningful and humbling experience.”

The above-mentioned facts can be deemed to be a part of history of the democracy transition carried out by respective generations of the US. So, the US should be very careful in putting pressure on and imposing various sanctions against developing countries and should not forget its historic events. It should also review its acts to win the support of other nations to discuss Myanmar affairs in the UN Security Council to be able to notice that its drive is for democracy transition of Myanmar or for its domina- tion over the nation. It is because democracy cannot flourish in no time in the nation by just holding discussions in the UN Security Council and just taking action against the nation by the SC. To flourish democracy rests absolutely on the prevailing situations of the nation concerned.

It has been a tangible proof that democracy cannot flourish at all in Afghanistan and Iraq that the US and its associates have invaded for the flourishing of democracy there.

Why Vaclav and Tutu submitted a report full of exaggerations on Myanmar affairs to the UN Security Council to take action against the nation was because the attacks launched on Myanmar under the pretext of narcotic drugs, forced conscription of child soldiers, forced labour and human rights did not work at all. Like Husaddin Hsinmin Jataka, those who are anxious to grab the advantages of the report, who instigated the report, and who submitted it are separate persons or elements. Therefore, I would say it is just an exaggeration with a call on the UN Security Council to take action against Myanmar as though that were international affairs, which is transla- ting into practice the State’s seven-point Road Map for peacefully transforming into a democratic nation and enjoying fruitful results of peace and stability due to the fact that 17 national race armed groups have returned to the legal fold and are putting energetic endeavours into the national development tasks.

Translation: MS


**Education sector witnesses sustained progress**

**Development of science and technology in the time of the Tatmadaw Government**

**Subjects, trainees and graduates in the science and technology sector**

In building the Union of Myanmar to develop on the most suitable path for flourishing national interests, the government is nurturing highly qualified intellectuals and intelligentsia who can face the challenges of the future.

Development in the science and technology sector is not limited only in the education sector but dominates all sectors.

At such a time, efforts are being made for emergence of a modern nation applying prevailing natural resources and high efficiency of citizens and exposing development prospects.

In order to promote the national interests, brilliant human resources are being nurtured not only in the education sector but in the science and technology sector.

Emphasis is being placed on establishment of universities and colleges enabling students to pursue various subjects on science and technology and conducting various subjects.

As a result, various subjects on science and technology, a number of trainees learning these subjects and increasing in the number of technicians can be witnessed in the time of the Tatmadaw government.

As all-out efforts are being made to promote the science and technology sector for national development, quality and quantity of trainees pursuing their education in the science and technology fields have become high and more degree holders emerged.

The tables show the increase of subjects and number of trainees in the science and technology sector in the time of the Tatmadaw government.
Senior General Than Shwe presents offerings to a Sayadaw at the provisions offering ceremony. (News on page 1) — MNA

Daw Kyaw Kyaw presents offerings to a Sayadaw at the provisions offering ceremony. (News on page 1) — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye presents offerings to a Sayadaw at the provisions offering ceremony. (News on page 1) — MNA

Daw Mya Mya San presents offerings to a Sayadaw at the provisions offering ceremony. (News on page 1) — MNA

Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Lt-Gen Tin Oo, presents offerings to a Sayadaw at the provisions offering ceremony. (News on page 1) — MNA

General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thei present offerings to a Sayadaw at the provisions offering ceremony. (News on page 1) — MNA

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win present offerings to a Sayadaw at the provisions offering ceremony. (News on page 1) — MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe present offerings to a Sayadaw at the provisions offering ceremony. (News on page 1) — MNA
General Soe Win and Daw Than Than Nwe, Lt-Gen Thein Sein and Daw Khin Khin Win, SPDC members and their wives, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) and the Commander-in-Chief (Air) and their wives, the commander, ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, the auditor-general, the CSSTB chairman and the mayor and their wives, deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, heads of department, local authorities, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association and social organizations and wellwishers presented rice and provisions to Sayadaws.

The congregation then shared the merits so gained. — MNA

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Outstanding students of Mon State for 2004-2005 academic year honoured

YANGON, 15 Nov — Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence on 13 November attended a ceremony to honour the outstanding students of Mon State for 2004-2005 academic year held in Mawlamyine and awarded the students.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Maung Bo said it is remarkable achievement of Mon State that stood second in the whole nation for 2004-2005 academic year and three students were positioned on the top-ten list of the exam.

To meet the challenge of the knowledge age, the Government laid down the Myanma Education Vision and has been implementing the short-term and long-term education plans in basic and higher education level, he added.

In his concluding remarks, Lt-Gen Maung Bo called for participation of people, social organizations, staff, teachers and local authorities in implementing the education promotion programmes of the State. Next, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Soe Naing also delivered an address.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Maung Bo presented prizes to three students of No 8 Basic Education High School who stood fourth, seventh and eighth in the top-ten list. Lt-Gen Maung Bo also awarded the Headmistress and outstanding teachers.

Commander Maj-Gen Soe Naing also presented prizes for high-passed rate to headmasters and mistresses of No 8, No 9 and No 6 BEHSs and respective township education officers of Mudon, Thabyuzayat and Mawlamyine.

Wife of the commander, the deputy commander and his wife also awarded the students who also got good grades in the martric exam.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Maung Bo and party went to the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine) construction project and inspected construction of the approach structure for railroad bridge.

Over sixty-four percent of the railroad bridge has been completed, it is learnt.

MNA
Yangon, 15 Nov — The 21th Matho robes offering ceremony organized by the Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees was held at the pagoda today.

The robes weaving competition was held last night and winner teams were awarded at midnight.

At 4 am today, members of the pagoda board of trustees offered robes to Buddha Images at the pagoda and the merit sharing ceremony was held at 6 am.

A ceremony to observe the Samañña Phala Day was held at Shwedagon Pagoda at 7 am.

Similarly, Matho robes were offered to Buddha Images at the Sule Pagoda, Botataung Pagoda, Kaba Ayeyarwady Pagoda and Kyaiktho Pagoda this early morning.

Pilgrims and religious associations also performed meritorious deeds at the Mahāvizaya Pagoda, Law-kachanta Abyaya Labamuni Buddha Image, Tooth Relic Pagoda, Kho-hetgyi Image, Kyaukswai Pagoda and Mae-lamu Pagoda in Yangon Division.

On the Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmone 1367 Myanmar Era, the Samañña Phala Day, pagodas in Yangon Division were crowded with pilgrims. — MNA

Matho robes offered to Buddha Images at pagodas on Fullmoon Day of Tazaungmone

YANGON, 15 NOV — The 15th Matho robes offering ceremony organized by the Shwe Phone Pwint Pagoda Board of Trustees was held at 5 am today at the pagoda in Pazundaung Township.

At the ceremony, Chairman of All-round Renovation Tasks Committee of the pagoda Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Win and well-wishers offered robes to Buddha Images at the pagoda.

The Matho robes weaving competition organized by the pagoda board of trustees was held yesterday.

Ten weaving teams were participated in the Matho Robes Weaving Competition. Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and officials gave away prizes to winning teams after which the ceremony concluded successfully. — MNA

Matho robes offering ceremony held at Shwe Phone Pwint Pagoda

Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe offer Shwekyar Thingan to a Buddha Image. (News on page 1) — MNA
YANGON, 15 Nov
— Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Yangon Command, met specialists, health staff and departmental personnel who will go on a trip to Kokogyun township to carry out regional development work and provide health care for local people at the office of Ayeyawady Naval Base yesterday morning.

In meeting with the staff members, Lt-Gen Myint Swe said measures are being taken to fulfill the needs of development sectors such as education, health, social and economic affairs and transport in Kokogyun township which is the most far-flung area of Yangon Division. A 16-bed hospital for public health care and an auto telephone system for better communications have been established in the township. The Yangon Division PDC in cooperation with the division health committee is sending groups of health staff including specialists and generalists to the region for providing public health care annually. That’s why, he said, health staff are urged to carry out their duties conscientiously for the health of the local people. And service personnel are also to strive for the development of the region.

Next, officials concerned introduced the commander to the specialists and departmental staff individually. The group comprises six specialists, 2 generalists, nine health staff members, six of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association. MNA

Chinese goodwill delegation arrives

YANGON, 15 Nov
— At the invitation of Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo, a 21-member Chinese goodwill delegation led by member of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Polit Bureau and Vice-Chairman of the National People’s Congress Standing Committee of the People’s Republic of China Mr Wang Zhaoguo arrived here yesterday evening.

The Chinese goodwill delegation was welcomed at the airport by Secretary-General of the Union Solidarity and Development Association U Htay Oo, Joint Secretary-General U Zaw Min, CEC member Thura U Aung Ko and officials of the Headquarters of USDA, Chinese Ambassador Mr Guang Mu and officials.

The delegation this morning visited Drug Elimination Museum at the corner of Hanthawady road and Kyundaw road in Kamayut Township. MNA

Prime Minister General Soe Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe present offertories to a Sayadaw. (News on page 1) — MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye and wife Daw Mya Mya San present offertories to a Sayadaw. (News on page 1) — MNA

Daw Khin Than Nwe, wife of Li-Gen Tin Oo, presents offertories to a Sayadaw. (News on page 1) — MNA

General Thura Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet present offertories to a Sayadaw. (News on page 1) — MNA

Secretary-1 Li-Gen Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win present offertories to a Sayadaw. (News on page 1) — MNA
Briton claims to have beaten HIV virus

LONDON, 14 NOV — A British man claimed on Sunday to be the first person to become clear of the HIV virus, which can lead to AIDS, after earlier testing positive for it.

If true, the case of 25-year-old Andrew Stimpson — reported in two British newspapers — could reveal more about the virus and possibly even provide a breakthrough in the search for a cure for HIV/AIDS.

A spokesman for Chelsea and Westminster Healthcare Trust in London confirmed that one of its patients had tested negative for HIV about 14 months after testing positive in May 2002.

“He did test positive and then later negative, but in terms of curing himself, we don’t know because he hasn’t been back for further tests,” said the spokesman.

“We very much want him to return so we can try to find out what exactly has happened,” she added.

There is no known cure for HIV/AIDS, responsible for the deaths of millions of people and especially virulent in parts of Africa. Some experts say there are nearly 35 million sufferers around the world.

Scientists cite anecdotal accounts from Africa of people shaking off HIV but say they have never seen firm evidence.

“I feel truly special and lucky,” Stimpson, who is a sandwich maker, told The News of the World. “All the doctors have told me it is a medical miracle that I am clear.”

South Korea prepares for Internet attacks during APEC forum

BUSAN, 14 NOV — South Korea is preparing to defend itself against Internet attacks as part of its security precautions for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, the nation’s intelligence agency said on Sunday.

The National Intelligence Service (NIS) said it is increasing its monitoring of Internet protocol addresses which are suspected of having been used to attack computer networks before, according to Yonhap news agency.

The National Cyber Security Centre, the unit of the intelligence agency in charge of counter-cyberterrorism duties, has already completed security checks of all computers and information networks installed at APEC forum venues, in order to prevent hackers from possibly stealing data from participants’ computers, the agency said in a statement.

“We will closely coordinate with police and other related agencies to catch the hackers if Internet attacks take place,” said an official of the centre, who declined to reveal his name.

South Korea is one of the world’s most wired nations, with more than two-thirds of its 51 million households having high-speed Internet connections.

The APEC Forum is held annually to enhance ties and boost trade and investment throughout the Pacific Rim. Leaders and ministers from 21 APEC members will attend the APEC meetings.

South Korea mounted a 37,000-strong team for security of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum being held from 12 to 19 November in the country’s port city of Busan.

Seven die in central Japan expressway accident

Tokyo, 14 Nov — Seven people died and several were injured in a multiple pileup Sunday morning on the Messhin Expressway in central Japan’s Shiga Prefecture.

According to Japan’s national police agency, the accident involved seven cars, including two large buses and two heavy trucks.

Police are now investigating the cause and have arrested the driver of a truck that is believed to have left the last vehicle to smash into the crash site.— MNA/Xinhua

Bangkok toddler confirmed as bird flu victim

BANGKOK, 14 NOV — A Bangkok toddler has tested positive for bird flu, a senior official said on Saturday. The first human case in the Thai capital since a fresh flare-up of the deadly disease a month ago.

The one-year-old boy probably contracted the H5N1 virus from playing around chickens at his home which died of the virus, said Pajit Warachit, director-general of the Department of Medical Science.

The child’s grandmother was under surveillance. The virus has killed 13 Thais since it swept through large parts of Asia in late 2003. — MNA/Reuters

Japan complies action plan against flu epidemic

Tokyo, 14 Nov — Japan, worried about the possible emergence of a mutated strain of bird flu virus that can spread among humans, has drawn up an action plan which estimates that an outbreak could kill up to 640,000 people, a Japanese daily said on Saturday.

The government programme, which calls for steps such as increasing stockpiles of Tamiflu — an antiviral drug regarded as the drug of choice against bird flu in humans — assumes that one in four people could be infected in Japan if an outbreak occurs, the Asahi Shimbun daily said.

Under this scenario, the government estimates that between 530,000 and 1.7 million people could be infected, Asahi said.

If it is confirmed that such a virus has been transmitted between person to person in Japan, the Health Ministry would take steps such as asking for the temporary closure of schools in affected areas, it said.

If the outbreak spreads and starts infecting people in a wide area, the Health Minister would declare a state of emergency and take nationwide countermeasures such as shutting down schools, the paper said.

Japan will also aim to increase stockpiles of Tamiflu so there will be enough for 25 million people to be treated over five days, rather than just three days under a previous target, Asahi said.

The action plan calls for raising the share of stockpiles to be held by the public sector, to over 80 per cent from 20 per cent previously, the newspaper said.

The H5N1 strain of bird flu virus is known to have infected 124 people and killed 64 in Asia.

Although the H5N1 virus remains hard for people to catch, scientists say it is steadily mutating and could acquire changes that make it easy to spread from human to human, triggering a pandemic in which millions could die, MNA/Reuters

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Drive safely
China to launch first digital high-resolution TV channel

BEIJING, 14 Nov — China will launch its first digital high-resolution television channel and start nationwide broadcasting on 1 January next year.

The new channel of the China Central Television (CCTV) will be the first Chinese-language digital high-resolution channel in the world.

Based on digital technology of programme producing and broadcasting, it will be a paid channel which produces pictures twice as clear as that of DVDs.

ChinaDTV media Inc. Ltd, which provides technological support to the channel, collaborates with provincial network companies and high-resolution television set producers to ensure the smooth transmission and reception of the programmes.

TV viewers will be able to watch a number of sporting events and concerts on the channel, including the 2006 Berlin Soccer World Cup.

The channel began to provide 15-hour pilot programmes everyday since September in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province. After the formal launching of the channel, it will offer 18-hour programmes everyday.

According to a plan of the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television, China will start ground-based digital transmission throughout the country in 2008 and cease analogue broadcasting by 2015. The 2008 Beijing Olympic Games will also be broadcast with digital technology.

MNA/Xinhua

Siemens gets deal to build 60 high-speed trains for China

SHANGHAI, 14 Nov — Germany’s Siemens AG announced that it has got a contract to work with a Chinese partner in supplying 60 high-speed trains for China.

“In the next 15 years, China will lay 12,000-kilometre-long rail track for passenger trains. The signing of the deal marks another step of Siemens’ market success in China,” said Klaus Kleinfeld, chief executive of Siemens, in Shanghai on Saturday.

The high-speed trains, named CRH3, will travel at a speed of 300 kilometres per hour. They will be first put into operation on the Beijing-Tianjin route starting in 2008.

The train with more than 600 seats is 200 metres long. The first three of the trains and the key locomotive parts will be designed and manufactured in Siemens’ plant in Krefeld-Uerdingen, Germany. The rest of the trains will be built in the Chinese plant in Tangshan, north China’s Hebei Province.

Siemens is a major supplier of subway cars, signal, power supply and telecommunications systems to the cities of Shanghai, Guangzhou, Nanjing, Shenzhen in China. The Shanghai Transrapid Maglev Line undertaken by Siemens started operation in Shanghai last year.

MNA/Xinhua

Ancient temple found in Peru

LIMA, 14 Nov — Archaeologists have found a temple from the 1,800 to 500 BC period in Nepana, 410 kilometres north of Lima, local media reported on Sunday.

Koichiro Shibata, 1 of the temple so far, but have already found vast multi-coloured friezes and complex graphic carvings.

Among the treasures is a stone jaguar three meters high by four metres long. The finding is significant because it shows that coastal cultures had reached the same level of sophistication as the better known Chavin de Huantar cultures found in the mountains north of Lima.

Shibata’s project began in 2004 and will continue to the end of this year, with funding from the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science.

MNA/Xinhua

8 killed by unidentified men in Guatemala

MEXICO CITY, 14 Nov — At least eight people, including a five-year-old girl, have been killed by unidentified men in Guatemala over the past 24 hours, reports reaching here said on Sunday.

The National Civil Police of Guatemala (PNC) told reporters on Sunday that a group of men fired at a shop in the southeast of the capital Guatemala City, killing five-year-old Wendy Perez and Axel Acacajob, 22. Four other shoppers were wounded.

The PNC said they had no idea of the attack’s motivation. Also in the capital, Juan Cotzajay, 17, was shot to death by four men in an armed robbery on a bus. The Volunteer Fire Service also found five male corpses in different areas of Guatemala City.

One of the victims was found in a cardboard box in a market of the city. The other four, all in their 20s, showed signs of having been tortured before death.

MNA/Xinhua

Phool Chand Sharma, a Rajasthani man, proudly shows off his mustache which he claims to be more than 7 feet long at the Pushkar fair, in India’s desert state of Rajasthan, on 14 Nov, 2005. Many international and domestic tourists throng to Pushkar to witness one of the most colourful and popular fairs in India.

INTERNET
Mauresmo wins WTA Championships after beating Pierce

Los Angeles, 15 Nov.—France’s Amelie Mauresmo on Sunday edged her compatriot Mary Pierce 5-7, 7-6 (3), 6-4 in the WTA Championships final at Staples Centre, becoming the first French to win the season-ending tournament.

Mauresmo double-tailed to trail love–40 in the final game but rallied on five consecutive errors by Pierce in the first all-French final of the Championships.

“It is great feeling. It is the biggest win, obviously,” Mauresmo said after the 3-hour, 6-minute match. “I really think that’s a huge step for me. I don’t know where it’s going to take me, but it is a step. You know that it’s an important moment.”

The former world No. 1 has always been close and consistent but fell short in winning a major title, coming closest at the 1999 Australian Open, to lose in the final.

She is a three-time Wimbledon semifinalist who reached the U.S. Open semifinals once. She also entered the final of the WTA Tour Championships in 2003 but failed to win the title.

Mauresmo earned one million US dollars for the victory while Pierce received 500,000.

Pierce and Mauresmo broke each other once in the first set, which Pierce won on Mauresmo’s unforced backhand.

They traded breaks again in the second, when Mauresmo blew a 4-1 lead and failed to cash in two break points on Pierce’s serve in the 10th game.

Pierce’s cross-court backhand winner helped her hold at 6–all.

In the tie-break, Mauresmo won three straight points to take a 4-1 lead. Pierce broke back to 3 before herforehand failed and Mauresmo hit a winning backhand to even the match.

Pierce put broken to open the third set and then won three straight games to take a 3-2 lead.

Mauresmo won two of the next three games for 4-all.

Pierce served at love–40 and hit her next-to-last winner of the match, a backhand that stayed off a second break point. But she pulled a forehand wide to trail 5–4.

The 30-year-old Pierce, who had beaten Mauresmo in a three-setter Friday during round-robin play, held triple break point in the next game, but her slew of errors helped Mauresmo close out the match.

“I just really needed to come forward more and be aggressive more,” she said. “That’s the only thing I can say I know I could have done better.”

Pierce hit 11 more winners but had a whopping 49 unforced errors.

Bayern withdraw Ballack contract extension offer

Berlin, 15 Nov.—Bayern Munich have withdrawn their offer to extend Germany captain Michael Ballack’s contract beyond the end of the season.

“We officially withdrew our offer today,” Bayern chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge said on Monday at the club’s annual meeting in Munich. Rummenigge said Germany’s Player of the Year, is definitely a target for Europe’s top clubs including Real Madrid, Barcelona, Manchester United, AC Milan and Juventus.

If he decides not to re-sign with the German champions Bayern could sell Ballack during the January transfer window before his contract expires at the end of June.

Ballack has won two Bundesliga titles and two German Cups with Bayern Munich but has repeatedly said his major ambition is to win the Champions League.

Ferguson says Keane and Neville still short of fitness

London, 15 Nov.—Gary Neville and Roy Keane are still some way short of full fitness after injury problems, Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson said on Monday.

Both experienced players have been out of action since September and Ferguson is desperate to restore them to his side to boost their faltering Premier League and Champions League campaigns.

Midfielder Keane broke his foot in the Premier League match at Liverpool on September 18, while defender Neville underwent groin surgery seven weeks ago to clear up a niggling problem and had hoped to play in a friendly on Monday.

“Gary was due to play and pulled out because he isn’t 100 percent but it is not a blow,” Ferguson told Sky Sports.

“Roy’s back in light training but his injury is hard to assess. He’s on the way back, maybe two or three weeks I think,” Ferguson added.

United strikers Louis Saha and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, defender Gabriel Heinze and utility player Quinton Fortune are also still on the injured list.

The New Light of Myanmar
Explosion in Kabul leaves 2 dead, 7 injured

KABUL, 15 Nov — The suicide explosion which shocked the Afghan capital Monday afternoon claimed the lives of two including a soldier of NATO-led multinational peacekeeping force and injured seven others, an official confirmed.

“Seven persons including two soldiers of ISAF (International Security Assistance Force), two Afghan police and three civilians were injured in today’s explosion that occurred at 3 pm,” Interior Ministry spokesman Yusaf Stanizkai told Xinhua.

Two of the injured Afghan police were stationed at the UN office nearby, he added.

The bloody attack took place in Pul-e-Charkhi area some eight kilometres east of the city centre.

Meantime, a spokesperson of ISAF Annie Jackson confirmed the death of one soldier of the multinational troops by saying “I can confirm one soldier has been killed and two others have been injured.”

However the spokesperson declined to identify their nationality.

On the other hand, local police at the site of the explosion have identified the victims as German nationals.

A policeman who helped remove the wounded soldiers at the site said that he saw the bodies of the suicide attacker and a German unit soldier lying on the road. No one has claimed responsibility and the police and ISAF forces who cordoned off the area put the attack on the enemies of peace, a reference to Taliban militants. — MNA/Xinhua

Quake hits Japan, tsunami warning issued

TOKYO, 15 Nov — An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.9 jolted extensive areas on the Pacific side of north and east Japan Tuesday morning, with the Japan Meteorological Agency issuing a tsunami warning.

The warning for a tsunami up to 50 centimetres high was issued for the Pacific side of the Hokkaido and Tohoku areas in northern and northeastern Japan.

The 6:39 am (2139 GMT) quake measured 3 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale of 7 in those areas.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage from the quake.

The focus was at a shallow depth under the seabed in the Pacific some 310 kilometres east of the Oshika Peninsula in Miyagi Prefecture.

WEATHER

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, except for the isolated light rain in upper Sagaing Division, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (7°C) below normal in Magway Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Chin State, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States and Mandalay and Bago Divisions, (3°C) above normal in Mon State and Tanintharyi Division and above normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Pinlaung, Mindat and Hakha (6°C) each. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kalay (0.04) inch.

Maximum temperature on 14-11-2005 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 15-11-2005 was 63°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hrs MST on 15-11-2005 was 80%. Total sunshine hours on 14-11-2005 was (8:2) hours approx.

Rainfalls on 15-11-2005 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were (102.60) inches at Mingaladon, (101.77) inches at Kaba-Aye and (106.46) inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from North at (14:05) hours MST on 14-11-2005.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy in the South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 16-11-2005: Except for the possibility of isolated light rain or thunder-showers in Tanintharyi Division and weather will be generally fair in the whole country. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair weather in the whole country.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 16-11-2005: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 16-11-2005: Fair weather.

Earthquake report

Issued at 06:00 hours MST, today: An earthquake of strong intensity (6.9) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Off the East Coast of Honshu, Japan about (3350) miles Northeast of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory, was recorded at (04) hrs (17) min (24) sec MST on 15th November 2005.
Training Board and the chairman of Yangon City Development Committee the mayor and their wives, deputy ministers, the vice-mayor, the director-general of SPDC Office, heads of department, members of the Leading Committee to hold the Ceremony, the work committee and subcommittees, members of the Pagoda Board of Trustees and guests.

Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaiang Kyaiang offered ‘soon’ and fruits to the Pagoda and Buddha images.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaiang Kyaiang,