Administrative bodies and service personnel are those who implement the State projects practically. Tasks are to be carried out harmoniously based on mutual understanding and respect through coordination and cooperation.

Prime Minister inspects development in Hsinbo, Dawphonyan in Kachin State.

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Oct — Chairman of Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Prime Minister General Soe Win inspected development of Myitkyina Township, Hsinbo and Momauk Township and Dawphonyan in Kachin State on 14 October.

The Prime Minister and party arrived in Hsinbo in Myitkyina Township on 14 October and met departmental officials, social associations and townsenders. Township Officer U Soe Soe Thet of Township General Administration Department reported on the area of the township, cultivation of paddy, food sufficiency in the region, cultivation of corn, sesameum, sugarcane and oil crops, new crops and perennial crops and physic nut, livestock breeding and education, health and transport conditions.

Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Ohn Myint also gave a supplementary report. Officials concerned reported on education, health and regional development.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Deputy Minister for Health (See page 8).

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Preserve and promote traditional culture

Myanmar culture was of high standard even in the city states established in the early period of Myanmar history. The luxurious tree of Myanmar culture was the most flourishing in the Innwa period. The field of Myanmar culture became wider and deeper and grander and it was due to the innovations of the writers, poets and artists of that period.

Myanmar people are better known for their good character and goodwill. Such good character and noble mind have been motivated among the people by literature and performing arts.

The object of holding Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts competitions is to awaken and enliven national culture, national spirit and patriotic spirit of Myanmar people. And it is the duty of artistes to preserve and promote national culture and prevent the penetration of alien culture.

The 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions started at Nay Pyi Taw on 15 October and more than 2,000 artistes from states and divisions are taking part in the competitions including theatrical, marionette and drama competitions.

We would like to call on maestros and competing artistes to preserve the national cultural heritage by demonstrating their skills to the best of their abilities.
Putin meets Chinese President’s envoy

MOSCOW, 15 Oct—Chinese President Hu Jintao’s special envoy, State Councillor Tang Jiaxuan, met Russian President Vladimir Putin on Saturday and delivered him a verbal message from Hu which stressed the need for cooperation between the two countries on the nuclear issue of the Korean Peninsula.

China and Russia should cooperate to appropriately respond to the nuclear test of North Korea and work together to ease the situation, Hu said in the message to Putin. At a meeting with Putin in the Kremlin, Tang said the strategic partnership between China and Russia has been developing rapidly.

Mutual political trust is deepening, the practical cooperation has seen marked results and the two countries have maintained close contact and coordination on major international and regional issues, Tang said.

Putin meets Chinese President’s envoy

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Authorities investigating deaths of four people in Florida

WASHINGTON, 15 Oct—Authorities were investigating on Friday into the deaths of four people, which were found to be shot to death early in the day along a highway in the southeastern state of Florida, US media reported.

The four, one man, one woman and two children, had been shot, apparently where they were found, between 1:30 and 3:00 am local time, Sheriff Ken Mascara of St Lucie County said in a televised news conference.

The woman vainly attempted to protect the children by wrapping them in her arms, he said. “The female had both children clutched in a defensive mode, in an attempt to protect them,” Mascara added. “It gives the appearance they were a family travelling,” Mascara said.

All the four appeared to be Hispanic, the man was 29 years old, police said. Mascara said nearby residents reported hearing noises that could have been gunshots early in the morning.

The Florida Highway Patrol received a call in the morning saying bodies were spotted off the southbound shoulder of the highway, the sheriff’s office said.

Study shows giant pandas see in colour

WASHINGTON, 15 Oct—They may be black and white, but new research at the Georgia Institute of Technology and Zoo Atlanta shows that giant pandas can see in colour.

Graduate researcher Angela Kelling tested the ability of two Zoo Atlanta pandas, Yang Yang and Lun Lun, to see colour and found that both pandas were able to discriminate between colours and various shades of gray. The research is published in the psychology journal Learning and Behaviour, according to the official website of the Georgia Tech on Friday.

“My study shows that giant pandas have some sort of colour vision,” said Kelling, graduate student in Georgia Tech’s Centre for Conservation Behaviour in the School of Psychology. “Most likely, their vision is dichromatic, since that seems to be the trend for carnivores.”

Two NATO soldiers killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 15 Oct—Two NATO soldiers were killed in fighting in the southern Afghan province of Kandahar on Saturday, an alliance spokesman said.

The nationality of the victims was not given, but Canadian troops make up the bulk of NATO forces in Kandahar, bordering Pakistan and the birthplace of the Taleban.

This year is the bloodiest since the Islamist Taleban government was toppled by a US-led coalition in 2001. More than 2,500 people, including about 140 foreign soldiers, have been killed across the country. — MNA/Reuters
FAO Director-General’s Message on the 2006 World Food Day/TeleFood theme “Investing in Agriculture for Food Security”

Today, agriculture has contributed to human civilization by improving nutrition and living standards. It has ensured the production and distribution of agricultural, fishery and forestry products and enough food to feed everyone on this planet.

Despite the progress achieved in agriculture and rural development, more than 850 million people still remain hungry and poor. Our greatest challenge is to reach the World Food Summit and first UN Millennium Development Goal to halve by 2015 hunger and poverty worldwide.

The theme chosen for World Food Day and TeleFood this year is “Investing in agriculture for food security” so that “the whole world will profit”. The aim is to highlight the role of investment in agriculture — both public and private. Action should be supported to improve rural livelihood by reversing the decline of public investment in agriculture over the last two decades.

Seventy percent of the world’s hungry live in rural areas. That is where it is most critical to provide food and employment. The seed planted by a farmer leads to a flourishing agribusinesses that pay taxes, and help build rural schools and roads. Agricultural development is the first step of a long-term sustainable economic growth. Everyone gains from investment in agriculture.

Since 1964, FAO has been a key player in the UN system in the mobilization of international and domestic financing for agriculture in favour of developing countries and countries in transition. Through its cooperation with financing agencies, FAO has helped 165 member countries to obtain funding for almost 1600 agricultural and rural investment programmes and projects. That represents funding commitments of over US $ 80 billion.

The challenge of increasing investment in agriculture is especially great in Africa. Governments in that region have recognized the urgency of committing their own resources to agriculture. In the “Maputo Declaration” in 2003, African Heads of State committed their governments to allocating 10 percent of their national budgets to agriculture and rural development within five years, thus doubling the present level of resources.

Recently there has been a significant revival in lending for agriculture. Debt forgiveness programmes, strengthened by the G-8 decision in 2005, have begun to release national resources for investment in the sector. But much still remains to be done and innovative actions are welcome.

Increasing the volume of public investment in agriculture is of absolute necessity and it is crucial to make such assistance more effective. One major mechanism is the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development, a consortium of 26 donor development agencies, which FAO co-chairs with Germany’s Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The platform seeks to improve donor aid effectiveness and focus action on achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

While increased development assistance, public investment and debt relief are key elements, equal importance should be given to private sector investment. Commercial farmers, traders, input suppliers, agro-processors and transnational agribusinesses all contribute to a global system of investment that can help rural people reap profits from agricultural production, marketing and trade. But, importantly, let us not forget that small farmers themselves are the biggest investors in agriculture.

“Promoting profitable partnerships” is the new model for cooperation between the public and private sectors. This means finding new ways of bringing together producers — small farmers and cooperatives — with agribusinesses and governments to create profitable ventures. It places primary responsibility on governments to create stable socio-political conditions, establish legal frameworks for access to land and water, enforce grades and standards, foster a better climate for private investment and provide essential rural infrastructure.

On this World Food Day, let us resolve to increase the investment in agriculture so that the whole world may profit. — MVA

Thai PM pledges closer ties, cooperation with Cambodia

Yongyuth Mayalarp, spokesman of the Thai government, told journalists that the Prime Minister Hun Sen upon his arrival at Phnom Penh international airport on 15 Oct, 2006 on his one-day official visit to Cambodia. —INTERNET

Minister informed Mr. Hun Sen about the political situation in Thailand and pledged that his interim government would continue the previous government’s policy of economic cooperation with the Phnom Penh government.

Gen Surayud pledged that his government would continue cooperation working together in the Ayewady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) and to continue negotiating regarding certain border areas which overlap between the two neighbour countries.

Hun Sen, according to Mr. Yongyuth, was willing to allow the Thai government to change working committee members responsible for solving the border problem as he was keen to explore for oil in the disputed areas as global oil price kept on rising. Gen Surayud said that in his opinion the problem of overlapping border areas must be solved jointly by the two countries because it would benefit both countries.

He said he had assigned Foreign Minister Nitya Pibulsonggram to act on behalf of the Thai government in meeting with appropriate Cambodian officials to find ways to resolve the issue.

Mr. Yongyuth said that the Cambodian Premier proposed a meeting between Thai, Lao and Cambodian government leaders to be held on joint development of the so-called Emerald Triangle Cooperation Framework, designed for developing tourism resources and promote tourism among participating countries.

Quake knocks out power across Hawaii

HONOLULU, 15 Oct—A strong earthquake shook Hawaii early Sunday, causing a landslide that blocked a major highway on Hawaii Island and knocking out power across the state, authorities said.

The state Civil Defense had unconfirmed reports of injuries, but communication problems prevented more definite reports. People were also trapped in elevators in Oahu, authorities said.

Gov Linda Lingle said in a radio interview with KSSK from Hawaii Island that she had no report of any fatalities. She said boulders fell on highways, rock walls collapsed and television had been knocked off stands.

“We were rocking and rolling,” said Anne LaVasseur, who was on the second floor of a two-story, wood-framed house on the east side of the Big Island when the tremor struck.

Twelvefoot-metre-high fibreglass elephants are seen near the Opera house in Lille, northern France, on 14 Oct, 2006. The Indian elephant statues were created by Bollywood designer Nitin Chandrakant Desai to promote the Lille festivities on the theme of India. XINHUA

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Season’s early snow blamed for at least three deaths in US

WASHINGTON, 15 Oct—The Buffalo area in New York was blanketed by a record-setting two feet (0.6 metre) of snow on Friday, and at least three deaths were linked to the rare early October snowstorm, media reports said.

The Buffalo area, near the border with Canada, saw the heaviest snowfall for a single October day since 1870, when record-keeping began, meteorologists at the National Weather Service were quoted as saying.

Some 75,000 people in the city of Buffalo were left without power, Mayor Byron Brown said in a televised news conference.

Detroit and Chicago also set records, for the earliest measured snow, which caused many trees to fall on power lines, knocking off electricity for many people.

New York Governor George Pataki, who declared a state of emergency for several counties, said the snowstorm had knocked off power supply for about 380,000 homes and businesses in the state.

Two people died in traffic accidents blamed on the storm and another person died after being hit by a falling tree limb while shovelling snow in the state, the Associated Press reported.

Secretary General’s message on the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

17 October 2006

YANKON, 17 Oct—The following is the message from the Secretary General of the United Nations on the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty which falls today.

The theme for this year’s International Day for the Eradication of Poverty—’Working together out of poverty’—highlights the need for a truly global anti-poverty alliance, one in which both developed and developing countries participate actively. The world has made real but insufficient progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. Thus, while extreme poverty declined significantly between 1990 and 2002—from 28 % to 19% of the developing world’s population—progress has been uneven both within and between regions and countries. In much of Asia, economic and social progress has lifted nearly a quarter of a billion people out of perpetual poverty. But poverty rates in Western Asia and Northern Africa have remained stagnant, while the transition economies of Eastern Europe and Central Asia have registered increase. And, said Li Xiaoming, acting director of the Department of Ocean Environment under the administration, the team behind the campaign is already on track to achieve the Goals can aim higher still by adopting even more ambitious targets.

Regrettably, the “global partnership for development” remains more phrase than fact. This has to change. All key development actors—governments, the private sector, civil society and people living in poverty—must undertake a truly collective anti-poverty effort that will lift living standards and alleviate human suffering.

The campaign to make poverty history—a central moral challenge of our age—cannot remain a task for the few, it must become a calling for the many. On this International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, I urge everyone to join this struggle. Together, we can make real and sufficient progress towards the end of poverty. — UNCI

China’s coastal sea areas polluted

XIAMEN, 15 Oct—About 14 million hectares of China’s coastal areas are polluted, according to the State Oceanic Administration.

“China’s coastal areas are suffering severe damage to their eco-systems, a decrease in oceanic resources and a loss of biological diversity,” said Li Xiaoming, director of the Department of Ocean Environment Protection under the administration.

According to Li, 31.7 billion tons of waste water, almost four times the average annual waste over the last century, were poured into the sea in 2005 and over 25 million tons of pollutants were discharged into the water.

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The woven, collared shirts typical of this landlocked South American nation were launched this week by the surfer-inspired Pomboro brand. Citronella oil comes from a perfumed grass and acts as an insect repellent.

“This is a product aimed at people who enjoy being in the fresh air and in contact with nature, but who want to maintain a sophisticated style,” said company owner Rodrigo Jacks. He added the shirts can be washed up to 40 times before losing their power to repel mosquitoes and other critters, like fleas.

Insect repellent apparel sold in the United States is coated in permethrin, a manmade derivative of the chrysanthemum plant. But in Paraguay, the shirts are a novelty. Government scientists are interested in finding out whether they could provide extra protection from ailments like malaria or dengue, an infectious disease transmitted by mosquitoes.

Paraguay shirts repel mosquitoes

ASUNCION, 15 Oct—Young entrepreneurs in Paraguay say they have a new weapon against pesky, and potentially dangerous, mosquitoes—cotton shirts soaked in lemon-scented citronella oil.

The woven, collared shirts typical of this landlocked South American nation were launched this week by the surfer-inspired Pomboro brand. Citronella oil comes from a perfumed grass and acts as an insect repellent.

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MNA/Reuters

A woman digs her car out, the day after a sudden winter storm hit Buffalo, New York, on 14 Oct, 2006.—INTERNET

Two cargo ships collide near Three Gorges, ten rescued

YICHANG, 15 Oct—Two cargo ships collided on Friday night on the upper reach near the Three Gorges Dam and ten sailors were rescued.

According to the Three Gorges navigation administration, the collision took place at 10:35 pm near Quxikou in central China’s Hubei Province, or about seven kilometres from the Three Gorges Dam.

One cargo ship capsized on the spot after the collision. The administration deployed two rescue ships, together with other fishing ships on the nearby waters in search of the missing sailors.

As of Saturday morning, ten sailors were found and rescued, and all were given food, clothing and medical treatment. Yet it remains unknown how many sailors are still missing, said the source, adding that the rescue operation is still going on.

The collision does not affect the normal traffic on the Yangtze River near the Three Gorges, and administration said the cause of the accident is underway.—MNA/Xinhua

Photo taken on 14 Oct, 2006 shows a vintage car produced in 1893 at the 2006 Paris International Auto Show in Paris. With different ages and brands were put on the show.—XINHUA

MNA/Xinhua

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MNA/Reuters
MMTEI to produce 1,800 generators, 10,000 meters a year

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Oct — Myanmar Machine Tool and Electrical Industries under the Ministry of Industry-2, opened two factories which will produce generators and meters in Padaung Township, Pyay District, in Bago Division (West) on 14 October.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than of the Ministry of Defence unveiled the signboard of the factories. The Generator Factory will produce 5 KW, 10 KW single phase generators and 20 KW, 30 KW, 50 KW and 100 KW three phase generators, and the factory is expected to produce over 1,800 generators per year. Also present on the occasion were Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Col Sein Myint, departmental heads under the Ministry of Industry-2, officials of China-National Machinery Import and Export Corporation and Angelique International Co Ltd and officials. Before the opening ceremony of the Generator Factory, Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than heard reports on test run and production of the factory and called for production of quality machines and equipment. The Generator Factory was formally opened by the managing director of the Myanmar Machine Tool and Electrical Industries, the managing director of the Myanmar Industrial Construction Services and Vice President of Angelique International Co Ltd Mr Pradeep Arya.

The Three Phase Watt Hour Meter Factory opened its test run on 22 September 2005 and could produce 200 three phase watt hour meters a month. The factory is expected to manufacture 10,000 three phase watt hour meters a year. Eighty percent of components for three phase watt hour meters are manufactured at home.

Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe delivers an address at meeting of NCC Work Committee and members of Panel of Chairmen of NC. — MNA

National Convention Convening Work Committee meets members of Panel of Chairmen

YANGON, 16 Oct— A meeting between the National Convention Convening Work Committee and members of the Panel of Chairmen of the National Convention was held at the meeting hall-7 of Nyaunghnapin Camp in Hmawby Township this morning.

It was attended by Chairman of NCC Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Vice-Chairman Attorney-General U Aye Maung, Secretary U Tasung Nyunt and the joint-secretaries and members of the Panel of Chairmen of National Convention.

Chairman of NCC Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe presided over the meeting and Director (meeting) of the Work Committee Office U Than Aung acted as master of ceremonies.

In his address, Chairman of NCC Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe said that the Panel of Alternate Chairmen had already presented suggestions submitted by the delegate groups to lay down detailed basic principles for the functions on legislation of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw and Region or State Hluttaw to be included in the writing of the State Constitution, the chapter on the citizens and fundamental rights and duties of the citizens and the role of the Tatmadaw; and that the meeting was thus held to seek approvals of the delegate groups as to suggestions included in the presentations. And the clarification of the Chairman of the Work Committee was read.

Next, the Chairman answered the queries raised by those present and the meeting came to an end.

Chairman of National Convention Convening Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe delivers an address at meeting of NCC Work Committee and members of Panel of Chairmen of NC. — MNA

Coord Meeting for performing arts competitions held

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Oct — The work coordination meeting of 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions was held at the hall of Forest Research Department under the Ministry of Forest here this evening. It was attended by Secretary of Leading Committee for Performing Arts Col Yan Naing Oo, work committee and sub-committee members, team managers and officials.

The secretary, work committee and sub-committee members and team managers discussed matters on competitions sectorwise and the secretary attended to the needs. — MNA
A & I Minister attends ceremony to mark World Food Day 2006

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Oct—A ceremony to mark 2006 World Food Day was held at the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, here, this morning. Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo attended the ceremony and presented prizes to award winners.

Present on the occasion were ministers, deputy ministers, diplomats, resident representatives of UN agencies, departmental heads and others.

In his address, the minister said: Myanmar as one of the earliest member of the United Nations and also as a member of FAO, an agency of the UN, has traditionally and annually been celebrating the World Food Day consistently, and it remains a clear indication of Myanmar’s commitments to the ideals of the UN and FAO, in their quest for global welfare, prosperity and peace.

All the same, Myanmar is keenly aware that many more hurdles still remain to be surmounted. Freedom from hunger and the eradication of poverty still remain elusive and additional and concrete efforts for peace and security, and all round development still need to be enhanced. And in such respects, Myanmar has all along been cooperating sincerely with international agencies, regional organizations and its neighbouring countries, in whatever capacity it has been assigned to.

Since FAO’s 2006 World Food Day theme “Invest in Agriculture and Food Security” is highly appropriate to the prevailing conditions, it is our fervent hope that FAO and the International Agencies will be able to lay down suitable plans and strategies for more investment in agricultural productions.

Myanmar has historically been engaged in the uplift of agriculture and the government has been rendering all-round assistance to agriculture.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has laid down five work programmes. It lays emphasis on good road and communication with rural areas and guidance for the promotion of education, health, agriculture and the socio-economic conditions of rural areas. The programmes also call for the provision of adequate water for agricultural purposes and village water supplies, compatible to health.

The Union of Myanmar, in cognizance of its future growing population, has viewed the inevitable increase from all angles, and has laid down suitable policies and strategies for food sufficiency.

Afterwards, Resident Representative Mr Tang Zhengping of FAO read out the message of the director-general of FAO.

After viewing the video featuring the commemoration of 2006 World Food Day, ministers and guests observed booths displayed and agricultural machinery.

At the prize presentation ceremony, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein, Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung and officials presented prizes to award winners for excellent performance in agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries sectors, essay, painting and poster contests and photo contest. — MNA

MTA (Homein) Region Development and Welfare Group condemns US for putting Myanmar on agenda of UNSC


The following is the full text of the declaration:

The declaration of MTA (Homein) Region Development and Welfare Group on condemnation of the US interference in Myanmar’s internal affairs using the UN.

30 September 2006

A variety of national races reside in our country and it is obvious that the government is now making all-out efforts to bring about harmonious development after laying down the development projects across the nation. Moreover, delegates representing national races and delegates representing people from all walks of life are participating in the National Convention in session for the emergence of a new democratic nation. Remarkable progress has been made in the holding of NC.

At a time when relentless efforts are being made in the process of transition to democracy, the US representative to the UN accused the country of posing a threat to regional stability and as a result, a decision was made on 15 September 2006 to put Myanmar on the agenda of the United Nations Security Council.

Such act is just the US interference in Myanmar’s internal affairs with the intention of impeding the nation-building endeavours, Our Three Main National Causes and the seven-point Road Map.

That is why the peace group declares that it condemns and protests against the plot of US to put the country on the agenda of UNSC in the strongest terms.

Maha Jar
Chairman
MTA (Homein) Region Development and Welfare Group
Administrative bodies and service personnel are those who...

(From page 1)

Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Minister for Education Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min and Deputy Minister for Social welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Aung Kyi reported on upgrading of roads and bridges, telephone and telegraphs, requirements of rural health care units, appointment of teachers and provision of fire engines.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Ye Myint also reported on the regional conditions and transport matters.

The Prime Minister then gave necessary instructions and presented provisions for Mankin rural health care unit to Hsinbo Township Officer. Lt-Gen Ye Myint presented medicines for 16-bed hospital to the doctor in charge, the commander presented clothing and Secretariat member of USDA Brig-Gen Thein Zaw USDA uniforms.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister cordially greeted those present. The Prime Minister and party inspected the site for construction of 16-bed hospital in Hsinbo. They inspected the extension of classrooms of Hsinbo Basic Education High School and toured the town.

At noon, the Prime Minister and party arrived in Dawphonyan in Mombauk Township. They visited the BEHS and training of students in audio and computer skill room.

The Prime Minister met departmental officials, social associations and townsenders. Township Officer U Ye Tun Aung of GAD reported on data of the township, rice sufficiency, measures undertaken for better roads, education and health matters and hydel power project.

An engineer of Public Works reported on construction of Konhnaw-Makhwal-Theinlon-Dawphonyan Road, Deputy Minister for Construction U Tin Swe gave a supplementary report.

The commander, the ministers and the deputy ministers reported on efforts for development of Dawphonyan.

The Prime Minister told officials to upgrade 14-mile Makhwal-Theinlon road section to all-weather road. The Prime Minister fulfilled the requirements and said the government is making endeavours for development of administration, education, health and transport after designating Myitkyina and Bhamo regions as development regions.

He said the government is making efforts for equal development of all regions in the Union, narrowing the gap between one region and another and improvement of living standard of the people. He said the service personnel are to work hard after realizing the goodwill and programmes of the government.

The service personnel should not perform their duties perfunctorily after enjoying salaries and rations provided by the government. Instead, they should work hard with goodwill and sense of duty.

The regions lagged behind in development and had to suffer a lot of hardships due to the armed insurgency in the past. Now there is peace and stability in the region. Therefore the government is making arrangements for local people to fully enjoy the taste of stability and peace. He said Myitkyina-Akyai-Hsinbo Road and Kohnaw-Makhwal-Theinlon-Dawphonyan Road are to be completed. Better transport makes the regions develop. Administrative bodies and service personnel are those who implement the State projects practically. Tasks are to be carried out harmoniously based on mutual understanding and respect through coordination and cooperation. By doing so, regional and national development can be made, he said.

Next, the Prime Minister presented funds for 16-bed hospital and school in Dawphonyan to officials. Lt-Gen Ye Myint also presented medical supplies to the doctor in charge. The commander and Minister Brig-Gen Thein Zaw presented clothing and uniforms. The Prime Minister presented cash to women’s affairs and maternal and child welfare association and greeted those present at the meeting.

The Prime Minister and party inspected construction of the hospital and presented offerteries to Myothit Kyaw and MyoU Kyaw Sayadaws. They visited domestic science and vocational training school for women and toured Dawphonyan and left for Myitkyina.

MNA

Myitkyina and Bhamo regions lagged behind in development and had to suffer a lot of hardships due to the armed insurgency in the past. Now there is peace and stability in the region. Therefore the government is making arrangements for local people to fully enjoy the taste of stability and peace.

Home-made bomb explodes in Kyaukdaga

Nay Pyi Taw, 16 Oct — Exiled terrorists and insurgents in league with internal and external destructive elements are attempting to harm lives and security of the people by committing subversive acts such as blasting bombs and inciting the public unrest. Moreover, in collusion with ‘88 generation students and anti-government groups within the country, those insurgents who are clandestinely operating at the border of the other country are bent on committing acts of terrorism.

On 14 October at about 10 pm, a small bomb exploded at a small empty wooden building near Athatawka-yan monastery at the corner of USanKyaw Street and Post Office Street in Kyaukdaga in Bago Division. The bomb destroyed the front of the building. According to the investigation into shrapnels, it was a kind of home-made bomb mostly used by insurgents.

The local people as well as the people from states and divisions are denouncing such destructive acts and cooperating with security personnel in investigating information sources for the explosion.

MNA
Programmes of Performing Arts Competitions continue for second day

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Oct — The second day programmes of the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions took place at designated places here today.

Member of the Panel of Patrons of the Leading Committee of the Competitions and Chairman of Leading Committee for Organizing the Competitions Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Wai Lwin, Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office Col Kyaw Kyaw Win, Secretary of the Leading Committee Col Yan Naing Oo of Nay Pyi Taw Command and committee members, officials and fans enjoyed the competitions.

The Maha Gita contest was held at the Auditorium of Yezin University of Agriculture and it was supervised by Chairperson of the Panel of Judges Assistant Director (Music) (Retd) Daw Tin Tin Mya and members.

Altogether 12 contestants participated in higher education level modern songs contest and 14 in basic education level (age 10-15) boys’ oldies and modern song contest.

The dancing contests were held at Auditorium of University of Veterinary science and Members of the Panel of Judges for Dancing Contest led by Chairman of the Panel of Judges for Dancing Contest by Professor Daw Nu Nu Khin of University of Culture (Mandalay) supervised the contest.

Participants of amateur level (second class) song composing contest practised the songs they had composed.

On 17 October, participants in higher education level song composing contest will practise the songs they had composed.

The Dobat contest was held at Agriculture Research Department and it was supervised by leader of the Panel of Judges U Sein Ka Lar (a) U Aung Wan Tu and members.

Altogether six groups from states and divisions took part in basic education level (aged 10-15) boys’ Dobat contest.

MNA

Objectives of the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

— To vitalize patriotism and nationalism
— To preserve and safeguard Myanmar cultural heritage
— To perpetuate genuine Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts
— To preserve Myanmar national character
— To nurture spiritual development of the youths
— To prevent influence of alien culture, and
— To strengthen national unity and Union Spirit.

A contestant competes in piano contest (basic education level). — MNA

Auditorium of Yezin University of Agriculture and it was supervised by Secretary of Panel of Judges Assistant Director U Kyaw Kyaw Win of Fine Arts Department and members supervised the singing contest.

Altogether 13 contestants from states and divisions took part in the basic education level (aged 10-15) Maha Gita men’s singing contest and 8 in higher education level women’s Maha Gita singing contest.

Oldies and modern song contests were held at the Lecture Theatre of Yezin University of Agriculture and it was supervised by Chairperson of the Panel of Judges Assistant Director (Music) (Retd) Daw Tin Tin Mya and members.

Altogether 12 contestants participated in higher education level modern songs contest and 14 in basic education level (age 10-15) boys’ oldies and modern song contest.

The dancing contests were held at Auditorium of University of Veterinary science and Members of the Panel of Judges for Dancing Contest led by Chairman of the Panel of Judges for Dancing Contest by Professor Daw Nu Nu Khin of University of Culture (Mandalay) supervised the contest.

Participants of amateur level (second class) song composing contest practised the songs they had composed.

On 17 October, participants in higher education level song composing contest will practise the songs they had composed.

The Dobat contest was held at Agriculture Research Department and it was supervised by leader of the Panel of Judges U Sein Ka Lar (a) U Aung Wan Tu and members.

Altogether six groups from states and divisions took part in basic education level (aged 10-15) boys’ Dobat contest.

MNA

Contestants participate in Orchestra contest (amateur level) (first class). — MNA

A contestant competes in piano contest (basic education level). — MNA

A contestant of Mon State taking part in the singing contest (higher education level). — MNA

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Singing, dancing, song composing and music…

(from page 16)

Girls’ dancing contest (aged 10-15) and the drama contest will be held.

Similarly, the song composing contest was held at Lecture Hall of Agriculture Research Department. Members of the Panel of Judges for Song Composing Contest led by Chairman of the Panel of Judges U Lay Nyunt supervised the contest.

Ten contestants from States and Divisions took part in the amateur level (first class) song composing contest; 13 persons in the amateur level (second class) song composing contest, and ten in higher education level song composing contest.

On 16 October, participants of amateur level (second class) song composing contest participated in the contest.

Solo Orchestra contest was held at the Convocation hall of University of Agriculture. 13 contestants took part in amateur level (second class) song composing contest and 8 in basic education level (aged 10-15) boys’ solo orchestra contest.

The contests were supervised by Chairman of the Panel of Judges U Yi Nwe and members.

On 16 October, amateur (first class) men’s orchestra contest and basic education level (aged 10-15) Dobat music contest would be held tomorrow.

The music contest took place at Auditorium of Agriculture Research Department. Seven troupes from states and divisions took part in the basic education level (aged 10-15) Ozi contest and nine groups in amateur level (second class) men’s ozi contest. The contests were supervised by Leader of the Panel of Judges U Sein Kalar (a) U Aung Wan Tu and members.

Basic education level (aged 10-15) Dobat music contest would be held tomorrow.

Singing, dancing, song composing and music contests of the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continue tomorrow at the designated places.

Maung Nyen Win of Yangon Division will compete in Vesantara Drama contest. — MNA

Bio-energy to account for 4% of China’s renewable energy by 2020

BEIJING, 16 Oct — Bio-energy will account for 1 per cent of China’s renewable energy consumption by 2010, and four per cent by 2020, said sources with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) on Friday.

Bai Jinming, an official with the science, technology and education department of the MoA, said at the start-up ceremony for the project of strategic development of bio-energy in rural China that bio-energy will help China meet its rising demand for energy.

The project is jointly launched by the Asian Development Bank and the MoA developing bio-energy in rural China will promote the development of China’s agriculture, along with the rural areas and farmers, Bai said.

Chinese farmers, said Bai. Bio-energy has been developing rapidly in China. According to statistics, by the end of 2005, more than 18.07 million peasant households are using methane gas for fuel.

More than 3,550 bio-energy projects are producing nearly seven billion cubic metres of methane each year, according to the statistics. According to the MoA, China’s installed capacity of bio-energy electricity will reach 5.5 million kilowatts by 2010, and 30 million kw by 2020. The annual use of methane gas will be 19 billion cubic metres in 2010 and 40 billion in 2020. — MNA/Xinhua

Beijing’s tallest skyscraper to install fast-speed elevator

BEIJING, 16 Oct — It will take elevator passengers just 30 seconds to be flung to the top of new wing of the 73-storey China World Trade Centre, Beijing’s tallest building which is due to be completed in 2009. The elevator will lift passengers at 10 metres per second and will be the fastest in China, according to a contract signed between the China World Trade Centre Group and Schindler (China) Elevator and Escalator Co. Ltd here on Thursday. The third phase of the China World Trade Centre will be 330 metres tall, doubling the height of the existing Beijing World Trade Centre. The landmark building is on the north side of the Chang’an Avenue, Beijing’s main street just inside the city’s third ring road. A manager with Schindler China, said that the elevator’s acceleration will be adjustable by computer so people will not get queasy stomachs. — MNA/Xinhua

Deputy of Interior Ministry survives bomb attack in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 16 Oct — A roadside bomb went off near the convoy of a deputy of the Interior Ministry in eastern Baghdad on Sunday, killing five people and wounding seven others, a well-informed Interior Ministry source said.

“A female Deputy of Interior Ministry in the financial department, survived unhurt when a roadside bomb hit her convoy at about 8:45 am (0545 GMT) near the al-Mustansriyah gas station in eastern Baghdad,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The blast damaged two cars of the convoy and wounded two of her bodyguards, along with five civilians killed and five others wounded, the source said.

In separate incident, a roadside bomb detonated near a US patrol in the Ghadair District in eastern Baghdad, wounding two civilians, the source said.

MNA/Xinhua
much food, officials said
lethal bacteria spread to
still do not know how the
possible source, but they
pointed cattle feces as a
wide. Investigators pin-
almost 200 others nation-
persons and sickened
spread that killed three
officials are still investi-
can floods and rain. The
transport the bacteria, so
short distance, wind can
fields. They said if it is a
transport to the spinach
China's Tianjin City.
Research Centre in north
Acupuncture Clinic
expert with Chinese
cure 461 diseases, said an
Chinese acupuncture can
such as stroke, diarrhoea,
muscles, bones and skins,
are in the nervous system,
diseases to which
acupuncture functions
year's study on the
conclusion after four-
old doctor, gave the
mysteries are solved, the
mysteries. Until the
find answers to the many
manure taints spinach.
 speculation that cattle
ranches, leading to
spinach they ate.
Experts said spinach
fields are close to cattle
ranches, leading to
speculation that cattle
manure taints spinach.
But experts still cannot
find answers to the many
mysteries. Until the
mysteries are solved, the
safety of the region’s
leafy greens cannot be
assured, experts said.
They raised several
questions:
— How did the pato-
gen move from cows to
crops? Large numbers of
wild pigs frequent the
ranch and might have fed
on manure and excreted
it in fields or tracked it there;
— How did the manure
spread to so much
spinach? Runoff or spring
flooding could have
transported feces from the
ranch, but the suspect
cattle pastures are
downhill from spinach
fields; and
— Are there other
sources? There have been
eight previous outbreaks
that have been traced back
to other lettuce in Cali-
ifornia’s Salina Valley and
spinach fields over the
last decade.
Kevin Reilly, deputy
director of the state
Department of Health
Services’ prevention
services division, said 13
people from his agency
and the Federal and Drug
Administration were
taking samples in four
fields Friday, focusing on
the cattle ranch and
trying to find out
“precisely how the
contamination could
have reached the actual
spinach on the fields”.
“We’re talking about
detective work ... We
don’t have that definitive
evidence yet but we have
a number of clues,” he
said.—MNA/Xinhua

Two tourists enjoy themselves in snow in southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region on 14 Oct, 2006. The first snowfall this autumn has hit the region.—XINHUA

Expert says Chinese acupuncture can cure 461 diseases

TIANJIN, 15 Oct — Chinese acupuncture can cure 461 diseases, said an expert with Chinese Acupuncture Clinic Research Centre in north China’s Tianjin City.

Du Yuanhao, 43-year-old doctor, gave the conclusion after four-year’s study on the acupuncture functions together with his team.

According to Du’s findings, most of the diseases to which acupuncture is effective are in the nervous system, the digestive system, the genitourinary system, muscles, bones and skins, such as stroke, diarrhoea, enteritis, dementia and skin rashes.

The points for acupuncture are in flesh, and that is why the treatment can be effective to diseases in muscles and skins, Du said. “Besides, points are rich in nerves. Thus it can also cure diseases in the nervous system and other systems whose functions are directly controlled by nerves.”—MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia to fully arm Sukhoi jetfighters

JAKARTA, 15 Oct — The Indonesian Air Force plans to fully arm its four Russia-made Sukhoi jetfighters, which arrived here in 2004 unaired, a report said Saturday.

The programme is estimated to cost seven million US dollars, reported the country’s leading news website Detik.com, quoting the Air Force chief.—MNA/Xinhua

S Africa ready to seize land from White farmers

EAST LONDON (South
Africa), 16 Oct — The
South African Govern-
ment has issued new
orders to seize land from
a small number of White
farmers who were not
willing to settle apar-
thed-era land disputes
with dispossessed
blacks, the nation’s agri-
culture and land affairs
minister said.

Minister Lulu Xing-
wana has said her
department would only
hold price negotiations for
six months with whites
who own land taken from
blacks during White
minority rule. If talks
failed, officials would
take steps to seize the
land.

She said wrangling
over prices had in the past
often taken years, frustrat-
ing officials who are
under pressure to speed
up the transfer of land to
blacks in order to correct
the skewed land owner-
ship created under White
rule.

“I must say, yes, the
majority of White farmers
have turned around and
come to the table and are
offering to sell land to
support government
restitution, but there are
hard-nosed ones and we
are dealing with that right
now,” she told reporters
on Friday.

Xingwana said that the
government was issuing
seizure orders to four
White farmers in Bela-
Bela, located in South
Africa’s northern Lim-
popo Province, who had
failed to reach settlements
within six months of being notified that they
must do so.

South Africa has
promised to put a third of
the commercial farming
sector in Black hands by
2014, but 12 years after
the fall of apartheid only
4 per cent of the industry
belongs to the Black
majority.

Restitution is part of
this drive, allowing
blacks to apply to have
their rights to land taken
from them restored or to
seek financial compensa-
tion from the govern-
ment.—MNA/Reuters

Source of E coli spread remains mystery

LOS ANGELES, 15 Oct— Federal and state health officials are still investigat-
ging the source of E coli spread that killed three people and sickened almost 200 others nation-
wide. Investigators pinpointed cattle feces as a possible source, but they still do not know how the lethal bacteria spread to the fields and tainted so much food, officials said on Saturday.

Experts need to figure out the mechanism of transport to the spinach fields. They said if it is a short distance, wind can transport the bacteria, so can floods and rain. The bacteria can be also transported by people walking from one side to another.

Federal and state investigators announced on Thursday that they have matched E coli O157:H7 in feces from an unidentified cattle ranch in California to the bacteria found in sick people as well as bagged spinach they ate.

Experts said spinach fields are close to cattle ranches, leading to speculation that cattle manure taints spinach. But experts still cannot find answers to the many mysteries. Until the mysteries are solved, the safety of the region’s leafy greens cannot be assured, experts said.

They raised several ques-
tions:
— How did the patho-
gen move from cows to
crops? Large numbers of
wild pigs frequent the
ranch and might have fed
on manure and excreted
it in fields or tracked it there;
— How did the manure
spread to so much
spinach? Runoff or spring
flooding could have
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Kevin Reilly, deputy
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“precisely how the
contamination could
have reached the actual
spinach on the fields”.

“We’re talking about
detective work ... We
don’t have that definitive
evidence yet but we have
a number of clues,” he
said.—MNA/Xinhua

A Thai child fishes in flood waters in his house in Bangkok on 15 Oct, 2006.—INTERNET

A US Air Force memorial was dedicated in Arlington, Virginia, just outside the nation’s capital, on 14 Oct, 2006.—XINHUA
### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

**MV XIANG FA VOY NO (6051)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIANG FA VOY NO (6051) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.10.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING (MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

**MV KOTA TERAJU VOY NO (169)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TERAJU VOY NO (169) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.10.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES PTE LTD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

**MV BANGPAKAEW VOY NO (145)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGPAKAEW VOY NO (145) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 16.10.2006 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO., LTD

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

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### Singapore, Slovakia sign Investment Guarantee Agreement

**SINGAPORE, 15 Oct**—Singapore and Slovakia on Friday signed an Investment Guarantee Agreement (IGA) during Slovak President Ivan Gasparovic’s state visit to Singapore. Demonstrating the growing economic relations between the two countries, the agreement gives investors of both sides greater certainty by clearly setting out investment norms and protection.

According to the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Gasparovic met his Singaporean counterpart SR Nathan on Friday morning. The two leaders agreed that Singapore and Slovakia share many similar traits and issues of mutual concern. —MNA/Xinhua

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### ASEAN countries agree to fight haze jointly

**JAKARTA, 15 Oct**—Environment ministers of five ASEAN countries agreed to forge a joint effort to overcome the hazy disaster, which hit the region in the past few weeks as a result of forest and bushfires in Indonesia.

The agreement was reached in a meeting in Pekanbaru, capital of Indonesia’s Riau Province, on Friday by five ASEAN environment ministers. The ministers agreed to jointly overcome the hazy problem as soon as possible. "Antara news agency on Saturday quoted Indonesian Environment Minister Witoelar as saying at the closing ceremony. The meeting could not be overcome quickly because Indonesia faced grave difficulties. Therefore, we agreed to cooperate. ASEAN countries appreciated the efforts made by Indonesia to overcome the haze," Witoelar said.

According to the meeting, it also agreed to provide operational funds to overcome forest and bush fires in Indonesia. —MNA/Xinhua
China marks 50th anniversary of aerospace industry

BEIJING, 15 Oct — Chinese President Hu Jintao sent a congratulatory letter to a conference celebrating the 50th anniversary of the country’s aerospace industry on Friday morning.

Hu said that the aerospace industry is a significant symbol of the nation’s strength.

We have made great achievements including developing the nuclear bomb, missiles, artificial satellites and manned space flights, and have established an independent and complete system and innovation for the benefit of the aerospace industry. China should strengthen its basic research ability and the education of trained personnel, he added.

He also called for more international communication and cooperation in the aerospace field. On 15 and 16 October, 2003, China launched and retrieved Shenzhou V, China’s first manned spacecraft, becoming the third country in the world to conduct a manned space flight independently.

From 12 to 17 October, 2005, the Shenzhou VI manned spacecraft completed a five-day flight with two astronauts on board carrying out space-based experiments.

HK to roll out vehicle replacement plan by April

HONG KONG, 15 Oct — Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government will set out to implement the vehicle replacement plan next April to reduce air pollution in the city, Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works Dr Sarah Liao said here Friday.

She said the government will consult the Legislative Council on the issue after listening to the trade’s views, adding it will take several months to finalize the plan.

Liao said emissions from cross-boundary vehicles using China’s low-quality petrol are major sources of HK’s pollution.

HK to roll out vehicle replacement plan by April

TRADMARK CAUTION

EVERRIGHT (Reg. No. W07/20/09) in respect of: Class 9: Battery, primary battery, illumination battery, storage battery, mobile phone battery, lithium battery, battery charger, storage battery for vehicles, battery plate, flashlight battery.

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of any other imitation whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Thon Aung B,S.L,P.L,Advocate

ROYAN TRADE MARK

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BEEFEATER

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Win Mu Tin M.A.,H.G.P.,D.B.L.,

for Allied Domeq Spirits & Wine Limited

P.O. Box 60, Yangon

Dated: 17 October 2006

Study says extrasolar planet half hot, half freezing

LOS ANGELES, 15 Oct — Using NASA’s Spitzer Space Telescope, astronomers have for the first time measured the temperatures on a planet outside our Solar System, and found the planet blisteringly hot on one side, frigid on the other.

The scientists on Thursday reported their findings at a meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Pasadena, California. The study also appeared in the 12 October online advance edition of the journal Science.

The planet, 40 light years (400 trillion kilometres) from Earth and named Upsilon Andromeda B, is about 75 per cent the mass of Jupiter, orbiting its star every 4.6 days.

Upsilon Andromeda B was discovered in 1996 around its sun Upsilon Andromeda, which is 350 light years away and visible to the naked eye at night in the constellation Andromeda.

The researchers determined that the temperature variation between the planet’s light side and its dark side could reach 1,600 degrees Celsius — its sunlit side could be hot as 1,400 to 1,650 degrees Celsius, while the dark side only minus 20 to 230 degrees Celsius.

A model presents a creation by Portuguese designer Nuno Gama at his Spring/Summer 2007 fashion collection in Lisbon on 14 Oct, 2006. —INTERNET

HK to roll out vehicle replacement plan by April

Dancers from the Bassar tribe perform a fire dance during the first edition of a festival of black divinities in the village of Aneho, 50km (30 miles) east of Togo’s capital Lome on 15 Oct, 2006. —XINHUA

A conference celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Central Institute of Socialism is held in Beijing on 14 Oct, 2006.—XINHUA
Barca break clear after 3-1 win over Sevilla

MADRID, 16 Oct— Barcelona moved three points clear at the top of the Primera Liga on Sunday after a Ronaldinho double and virtuoso solo goal from Lionel Messi earned a 3-1 home win against high-flying Sevilla.

Ronaldinho had come in for criticism for failing to pull his weight so far this season, but the twice World Player of the Year sparked into life with a coolly taken penalty and a classy free kick to put his side 2-1 up at the end of the first half. Argentine teenager Messi made sure of the win with a brilliant individual goal 10 minutes from time ahead of a big week for the Catalans in which they play Chelsea in the Champions League and then meet arch-rivals Real Madrid at the Bernabeu.

Barca, who are the only unbeaten side in the division, lead the table with 16 points from six games, three clear of Valencia and Atletico Madrid.

Valencia slipped to their first defeat of the season when they lost 3-2 at Celta Vigo, while Atletico snatched a 2-1 victory at home to Recreativo Huelva on Saturday when striker Sergio Aguero helped the ball into the net with his hand.

Porto reclaim top spot with win over Maritimo

LISBON, 16 Oct— Striker Helder Postiga scored twice as champions Porto moved back to the top of the Portuguese Premier League with a 3-0 home win over twice as champions Porto moved from Brazilian playmaker Anderson's pass. Postiga completed his double in the 84th minute, making his first appearance in 18 months after recovering from three operations.

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Porto, who lackled their usual fluency, were certain to be pushed all the way, however, when they met Sevilla later on Sunday. The Andalucians cruised Barca 3-0 when the two teams met in the European Super Cup at the start of the season.

At the other end of the table, Athletic Bilbao and Racing Santander notched up their first wins. Bilbao edged a 2-1 win at Gimnastic Tarragona, while Racing clinched a 1-0 victory at Osasuna.

Stankovic double sends Inter top of Serie A

ROSE, 16 Oct— Dejan Stankovic scored a goal in each half to send Inter Milan back to the top of Serie A with a 2-1 win over Catania on Sunday.

The result gave the Italian champions 14 points from six matches, two points ahead of AS Roma, who lacked their usual fluency in a 1-0 defeat at Reggina. Inter also climbed above Palermo, who lost 3-2 at home to Atalanta. Having drawn with Cagliari in their last league match, Inter’s players were keen to get their title challenge back on track with a victory over promoted Catania.

However, the visitors proved remarkably resis- tant at the San Siro, clinging on to possession and taking an unexpected lead when striker Giuseppe Mascara looped a superb shot over goalkeeper Julio Cesar from wide on the left after 16 minutes. Stankovic equalized when he headed a Luis Figo cross into the bottom corner of Cagliari’s net after 29 minutes but Inter continued to struggle until Julio Cruz replaced Brazilian striker Adriano on the hour mark.

Seven minutes after coming on, Cruz was fouled by Mauro Minelli to earn a penalty but his spot kick was turned round the post by Armando Pantanelli.

The Catania keeper was left flat-footed, though, in the 75th minute, when a punched clearance dropped kindly for Stankovic at the edge of the area and he volleyed home Inter’s second goal. The champions were not the only top side struggling to find their rhythm.

Ajax beat Groningen 3-2 to stay on top

AMSTERDAM, 16 Oct— Leaders Ajax Amsterdam fought back from a goal down to beat previously unbeaten Groningen 3-2 in the Dutch league on Saturday.

Ryan Babel opened the scoring from close range for Ajax five minutes into the second half after Groningen goalkeeper Bas Roorda failed to clear the ball. Five minutes later Evgeni Levenchenko converted a penalty and Luiz Suarez punished a blunder from goalkeeper Maarten Stekelenburg to give the visitors the lead.

Mexican striker Helder Postiga scored twice as champions Porto moved back to the top of the Portuguese Premier League with a 3-0 home win over twice as champions Porto moved from Brazilian playmaker Anderson’s pass. Postiga completed his double in the 84th minute, making his first appearance in 18 months after recovering from three operations.

Argentina’s Lucho Gonzalez with a penalty after a foul by Argentine striker Lisandro Lopez. The northern team lead with 15 points from six matches, two points clear of Braga, who won 3-0 at promoted Beira Mar on Friday.

snatched a 2-1 victory at home to Recreativo Huelva when they lost 3-2 at Celta Vigo, while Atletico snatched a 2-1 victory at home to Recreativo Huelva on Saturday when striker Sergio Aguero helped the ball into the net with his hand.

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However, the visitors proved remarkably resis- tant at the San Siro, clinging on to possession and taking an unexpected lead when striker Giuseppe Mascara looped a superb shot over goalkeeper Julio Cesar from wide on the left after 16 minutes. Stankovic equalized when he headed a Luis Figo cross into the bottom corner of Cagliari’s net after 29 minutes but Inter continued to struggle until Julio Cruz replaced Brazilian striker Adriano on the hour mark.

Seven minutes after coming on, Cruz was fouled by Mauro Minelli to earn a penalty but his spot kick was turned round the post by Armando Pantanelli.

The Catania keeper was left flat-footed, though, in the 75th minute, when a punched clearance dropped kindly for Stankovic at the edge of the area and he volleyed home Inter’s second goal. The champions were not the only top side struggling to find their rhythm.

Ajax beat Groningen 3-2 to stay on top

AMSTERDAM, 16 Oct— Leaders Ajax Amsterdam fought back from a goal down to beat previously unbeaten Groningen 3-2 in the Dutch league on Saturday.

Ryan Babel opened the scoring from close range for Ajax five minutes into the second half after Groningen goalkeeper Bas Roorda failed to clear the ball. Five minutes later Evgeni Levenchenko converted a penalty and Luiz Suarez punished a blunder from goalkeeper Maarten Stekelenburg to give the visitors the lead.
Thailand’s interim Parliament to hold first session

BANGKOK, 16 Oct — Thailand’s newly-appointed National Legislative Assembly (NLA), as the interim Parliament whose prime responsibility is to draft a new Constitution for the country, is scheduled to convene its first session on Friday, Thai media reported on Sunday.

The Royal Decree countersigned by Thai Prime Minister Surayud Chulanont and announced on Saturday evening, called the first meeting of the 242-member new legislative body, eight days after King Bhumibol Adulyadej endorsed its membership, which was selected by the Council for National Security (CNS), the military authority body that led the 19 September coup ousting former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

The main item on the agenda of NLA’s first session will be the selection of NLA’s president, a report from Thai News Agency said.

Sonthi Boonyaratkalin, CNS chairman said earlier that the military council will not intervene in the NLA’s process of selecting a chairman for itself, but affirmed that he was confident that the legislative assembly will function well as a Parliament, particularly in amending the Constitution to benefit all classes and sections of Thai society.

Under the interim charter announced by CNS, NLA is mandated to serve as the House of Representatives, the Senate and the Parliament. NLA members can submit a motion to question Cabinet members, but the ministers have the right to refuse to answer. The legislators cannot pass a vote of confidence or no-confidence.

The 242 members appointed include persons from all walks of life, such as politicians, academics, retired and serving civil servants, representatives from Asian organizations in the far south, civic group members and media professionals.

MNA/Xinhua

Athletes run at the start during the ANA Beijing International Marathon, also named as the 10th Asian Marathon Championships in Beijing, on 15 Oct, 2006. —Xinhua

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring areas

WEATHER

Monday, 16 October, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Shan State and Taninthayi Divisions, isolated in Kakwin and Chin States, lower Sagain, Mandalay, and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rain recorded were Mindat (0.40) inch and Dawei (0.33) inch.

Maximum temperature on 15-10-2006 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 16-10-2006 was 77°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 16-10-2006 was 78%. Total sunshine hours on 15-10-2006 was 6.6 hours approx.

Rainfalls on 16-10-2006 were nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were 98.39 inches at MINGALADON and 111.42 inches at Kaba-Aye and 116.61 inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 9 mph from North-west at 11:30 hours MST on 15-10-2006.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 17-10-2006: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kakin, Chin, Shan and Mon States, lower Sagain, Mandalay, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 60%.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thundershowers in Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 17-10-2006: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 17-10-2006: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 60%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 17-10-2006: Partly cloudy.

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Singing, dancing, song composing and music contests of Performing Arts Competitions commence at designated places

**Four political objectives**
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconciliation
- 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

**Vesantara drama contest**

**NAY PYI TAW, 16 Oct** — The Vesantara Drama Contest of the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued at University of Veterinary Science in Yezin and anyone may watch the competitions free of charge.

Maung Moe Min Cultural Troupe representing Yangon Division will take part in the contest tomorrow. — MNA

Contests from states and divisions participate in the song composing contest of the 14th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions. — MNA