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Tuesday, 2 October, 2007

Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives
- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Nation rebuilding tasks cover setting up of discipline-flourishing genuine democratic state

As National Convention first and most important step, its completion victory of democracy transition

Ceremony to support National Convention and constitution held in Kengtung

NAY Pyi TAW, 1 Oct—A ceremony to support the National Convention and constitution, organized by town elders of the Shan State (East) in accord with the law, was held at the sports ground in Kengtung this morning.

Over 72,000 people including the national race leaders from four districts of Kengtung, Monghsat, Mongphyat and Tachilek in Shan State (East), town elders, members of social organizations, traditional cultural troupes, economic and industrial organizations, peasants and workers, representatives of peace groups, service personnel, students and people from various mass and class organizations attended the ceremony.

Before the ceremony, starting at 6 am, Kengtung column led by U Nyi Nyi, Monghsat column led by U Kyi Thein, Mongphyat column led by... (See page 8)

Ceremony to support the National Convention and the State constitution being held in Kengtung, Shan State (East). — MNA

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

Killers in the air waves

It is not the first time that Htay Kywe and those foreign radio stations airing agitating news reports. A slanderous news report saying that a woman was raped by security forces was aired in collusion with BBC correspondent Christopher Gunness during 1988 unrest. The Myanmar people were tricked into believing the false news. So the 1988 unrest broke out. Many Myanmar people died in the unrest. I also narrowly escaped death for three times.
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Tuesday, 2 October, 2007**

**Improving socio-economic life of rural people**

The government opened Shanmange Dam in Meiktila Township on 29 September for the development of the agricultural sector and for the improvement of the socio-economic life of rural people.

The Shanmange Dam is the 203rd of its kind in the nation built in the time of the present government and the 50th in Mandalay Division. The emergence of the facility will benefit a total of 733,388 acres of farmland in Mandalay Division.

Furthermore, the Shanmange Dam has been able to supply drinking water to rural regions and irrigated water to farmland. As a result, local farmers will be able to do farming all the year round. At the same time, the dam will contribute to greening and beautifying of Meiktila District. As the project covers a small scale hydel power supply rural people will soon get electricity.

In Myanmar there were only 138 dams and reservoirs before 1988 and those facilities benefited over 1 million acres of arable lands. At present, there are 203 dams and reservoirs and they are benefiting 2.65 million acres of arable lands. And more river water pumping stations and underground water tapping projects are being implemented. As a result, the arid zone of Myanmar has turned out to be green and pleasant.

As the emergence of the Shanmange Dam gaves rise to boosting the agricultural production it is sure that the socio-economic life of rural people will improve.

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**International Day for Older Persons 2007 commemorated**

**YANGON, 1 Oct —** The International Day for Older Persons 2007 was commemorated at International Business Centre here this morning, with an address by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing and then he provided gifts, cash and medicines to the older persons.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint, Chairman of Work Committee for Organizing the International Day for Older Persons Director-General U Sit Myaung of Social Welfare Department, heads of departments, members of social organizations, foreign ambassadors to Myanmar and charge d’affaires, chairmen and secretaries of Supervisory Committee for Home for the Aged, guests, donors, older persons and officials.

First, the minister made a speech on the occasion, saying that the United Nations commemorates “International Day for Older Persons” on the 1st October every year. Myanmar, a UN member, holds International Day for Older Persons yearly starting from 1999 and the present ceremony has already reached ninth time. The care for the elderly is a custom of Myanmar nationals. The care for the elderly is a social task that has started since the periods of ancient kings. Therefore, successive ancient kings placed emphasis on care for older persons throughout Myanmar history. The task for caring older persons declined in colonial period. There were a great number of homeless older persons all parts of the nation later in the colonial period. Mingun, Thaton, Paungde Hninzigon Homes for the Aged have emerged since 1276 Myanmar era due to efforts made by Daw Oo Zun of Mandalay. Now there are 59 homes for the aged all parts of the nation. The United Nations designated five basic principles—Independence, Participation, Care, Self-Fulfillment and Dignity.

Next, Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Vice-President Daw Khin Thet Kay of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, Chairperson Daw Mar Wai of Supervisory Committee for Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe and Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tran Van Tung presented gifts, cash and medicines to the older persons.

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**Advanced Organizing Course of MWVO opened**

**YANGON, 1 Oct —** The Central Organization Committee for War Veterans Organization conducted a ceremony to open the Advanced War Veterans Organizing Course No 12/2007 at the training school of war veteran in Nyaungshin Camp, Hmawby Township, yesterday.

Also present on the occasion were members of the organizing committee and the principal of the training school and others.

Vice-Chairman of the Central Organizing Committee for WAO Vice-Admiral Kyi Min (Retd) delivered an opening address.

After the ceremony, the vice-chairman greeted the trainees. A total of 50 trainees from Kayin and Mon states, Taninthayi, Ayeyawady and Yangon divisions are attending the four-week course.—**MNA**
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Californian student surrenders after taking hostages

LOS ANGELES, 29 Sept—A 17-year-old student surrendered peacefully Friday after taking nearly two dozen classmates and a teacher hostage at a California high school.

The student fired at least one shot during the hostage taking at the Las Plumas High School in Oroville, California before he surrendered, authorities said.

There was no report of injuries resulting from the incident, Sang Kim, a spokesman for Butte County where the school is located, said in a statement.

All hostage students and the teacher had been released a little more than an hour after the incident began, said the statement.

School authorities negotiated with the hostage-taker and succeeded in persuading him to release the hostages, authorities said. The hostage-taker’s name was not released because of his age. Authorities said he was a student at the school.

The motive behind the incident remained unknown.—MNA/Xinhua

Strong quake jolts Japanese islands

HONG KONG, 30 Sept—A strong earthquake measuring 7.4 on the Richter Scale occurred near Japan’s Volcano Islands at 1344 GMT Friday, according a bulletin released by the Hong Kong Observatory.

The epicenter was initially determined to be 22.0 degrees north latitude and 127.4 degrees east longitude, about 340 kilometres south-southeast of Iwo Jima.

There was no immediate report of casualties or damage so far.—MNA/Xinhua

Bluetongue disease circulating in England

LANDON, 30 Sept—The British Government confirmed Friday that Bluetongue disease is circulating between local animals and midget population in England, following investigations into the five cases identified so far in Suffolk.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs said in a statement that a 20-kilometre control zone is being put in place around the area in East Anglia where the cases have been identified to date.

MNA/Xinhua

Iran brand US Army, CIA “terrorists”

TEHERAN, 30 Sept—Iranian lawmakers branded the US armed forces and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) as “terrorist” in a statement read out in Parliament on Saturday, Iranian media said.

Signed by 215 members of the 290-seat legislature, the statement was an apparent response to reports that Washington is considering labelling a unit of Iran’s elite Revolutionary Guards a foreign terrorist organization.

The legislators criticized the US military and the CIA for what they called terrorist actions, the official IRNA news agency said, citing the World War II atomic bombing of Japan, the Vietnam war and the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan as examples.

“Iranian lawmakers in a statement labelled the American Army and the country’s intelligence services (CIA) as terrorist,” IRNA said.

Their statement condemned “the violations by the American Army and the creation of insecurity in the region,” IRNA said. It also listed the United States “unlimited support for the racist and aggresive Zionist regime (Israel) and involvement in the terrorist operations of the government of that regime against the oppressed nations of Palestine and Lebanon”.

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said this week Washington was considering sanctions against the Qods force of Iran’s Revolutionary Guards which it accuses of inciting violence in Iraq. The Qods force is considered the elite unit of the Revolutionary Guards.—MNA/Reuters

Biofuel experiment starts in Helsinki public transport

HELSEPKI, 30 Sept—The first batch of buses running on bio-diesel took to the road in Helsinki on Friday.

Six vehicles utilizing the second-generation bio-diesel developed by the Finnish state-owned oil refining company Neste OIaire took part in the experiment, the Finnish daily Helsingin Sanomat reported.

The number of buses running on bio-diesel will increase to around 60 in the coming weeks.

The idea behind the experiment is to reduce emissions from public transport in the capital. The nitrogen oxide and particle emissions of bio-diesel are lower than that of regular diesel.

There are nearly 1,400 buses running in the Greater Helsinki Area’s public transportation system. The aim of the experiment is to make every second bus run on biofuel by the year of 2010.

MNA/Xinhua

Taleban free four kidnapped ICRC staff

KABUL, 30 Sept—Four staff of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) kidnapped by Taleban insurgents in Afghanistan three days ago were freed on Saturday, a Taleban spokesman said.

“The four employees of the ICRC who were kidnapped by the Taleban because of some suspicions have been released just now,” spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid told Reuters by telephone from an unknown location.

An ICRC spokeswoman in Kabul said she would not confirm the four had been freed until they had arrived back at the organization’s headquarters in the Afghan capital.

“I know that the operation for their release, for their transfer, are ongoing, but they are not here yet,” ICRC spokeswoman Grazia Chirollo said.

MNA/Reuters
Bolivian protest on school location kills student

LA PAZ, 30 Sept—Bolivian students demanding that a school be relocated to their town clashed with police and military forces in a standoff that killed one student and injured at least 10 others, local media reported on Saturday.

About 2,000 protesters had blocked roads and occupied a pumping station along a natural gas pipeline in Cochabamba Province, about 300 miles (485 kilometres) east of La Paz.

The clashes occurred on Friday evening when police retook control of the pipeline.

But the leftist government of President Evo Morales said it had not ordered the use of lethal force, and blamed the political opposition for inciting the confrontations over the school’s location.

“We are asking that prosecutors immediately undertake an independent investigation to determine who was responsible for the violence,” Interior Minister Alfredo Rada told reporters on Saturday.

The protests did not disrupt natural gas flows at the pipeline.

Demonstrations over mostly regional matters are staged almost every day in South America’s poorest country, but so far this has not destabilized Morales’ Government, according to a recent sociological study by Bolivia’s Fundacion Unir.

NATO soldier killed in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 1 Oct — A soldier of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was killed in eastern Afghanistan on Saturday, an ISAF statement said.

The soldier was killed during a combat operation, it said. The statement did not say which province it occurred and the soldier’s nationality.

About 37,000 ISAF soldiers are being deployed in Afghanistan to fight militants and keep security.

Due to rising Taliban violence, over 5,000 people have been killed in Afghanistan this year.

Explosion injures twelve tourists in Maldives

COLOMBO, 30 Sept—Twelve foreign tourists, including some Chinese, were injured in an explosion in the Maldivian capital of Male Saturday afternoon, the Maldivian Government said.

Mohamed H Shareef, the chief government spokesman, told Xinhua from Male by phone that the explosion happened at about 2:30 pm local time (0930 GMT) in a park in the central area of Male and the explosion was caused by a homemade device.

Shareef said that among the injured are two Japanese, two British nationals and some Chinese.

Some of them suffered burning injuries and they have all been admitted to hospital,” said the spokes-

man. He said the injured are in stable condition and the two British nationals have the most serious injuries.

“Since they have not yet recovered from the trauma of the explosion we didn’t ask them too much about the explosion,” Shareef said.

Shareef said this was the first such explosion in the Maldives for many years and the government will do its best to investigate the incident.

Towers blown up at world’s oldest N-plant in England

LONDON, 30 Sept — Fifty years of British industrial history were reduced to rubble within a couple of minutes on Saturday.

Four 88-metre (288 feet) high cooling towers at Calder Hall, the world’s oldest industrial scale nuclear power station, were blown up with 192 kilogrammes (420 pounds) of explosive as part of the plant’s decommissioning.

Calder Hall, in north-west England, is part of the Sellafield nuclear site. The station’s decommissioning is due to be completed by 2017.

“Sellafield provided a number of uniquely complex challenges that all had to be overcome in order to deliver this project safely,” project superintendent Jack Williamson said in a statement.

“There are over 20,000 tons of rubble to be ground up,” said a spokesman for Sellafield Limited, which runs Calder Hall for NDA. “The steel will be recycled while the concrete will be ground up.”

Sellafield, once known as Windscale, is a collection of nuclear facilities — including Calder Hall — dating back to the 1940s, with its core operation at the Thorp plant.

Britain gets about a fifth of its power from nuclear energy but is committed to closing all but one of its ageing nuclear power plants over the next 20 years.

Originally scheduled for closure in 2006, Calder Hall’s shutdown was brought forward and the power station ceased generation in March 2003.

Cambodia deploys boy scouts to promote traffic law

PHNOM PenH, 30 Sept—More than 200 boy scouts from National Association of Boy Scouts of Cambodia have volunteered to raise awareness of traffic law amid concerns of the increasing deaths from road accidents, a senior official said Friday.

The boy scouts, who were deployed besides the traffic lights of the main streets in Phnom Penh, have cooperated with traffic police to prevent violation of traffic law by drivers, Chey Chap, under-secretary of state for Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of Cambodia, told Xinhua.

The boy scouts came from high schools across Phnom Penh, he said, adding that this is the first step of the Cambodian boy scouts to promote traffic law and these activities will be spread to other provinces soon.

In early September, the traffic law went into effect after the National Assembly had approved it.
Likewise, altogether 10,500 people in Wetlet at 7.20 am today marched from the compound of Wetlet Shweyi Theatre to Bogyoke road along Phayagyi Street, Station road, passing the Township Development Affairs market and then to the gathering point, chanting slogans and holding the placards that read “We favour peace”, “We oppose violence”, “Ward of the danger of internal and external destructive ele-
ments”, “Our Three Main National Causes”, “Seven-
point Road Map must meet with success”, “We sup-
port National Convention”, “We hail the State consti-
tution”.

MNA

Local people marching to the mass rally in Shwebo. — MNA

Local people marching to the mass rally in Shwebo. — MNA

Local people participate in a mass rally in Shwebo. — MNA

Mozambican, Indian firms sign MoU on ethanol distillery

MAPUTO, 29 Sept — Mozambique’s state-owned fuel company Petromoc on Friday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian company Renu Distilleries and the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics for a viability study on the production of ethanol from sweet sorghum.

Although nothing has yet been defined in terms of funding for an ethanol distillery, or deadlines for building it, Petromoc is thinking in terms of a factory that could produce a million litres of ethanol a day, according to local media AIM. Petromoc representative Eugenio Silva said the Indian institute has promised to provide all the technical support necessary for smallholder farmers to produce sufficient sorghum on an efficient and sustainable basis.

The distillery would be located in the central province of Sofala, where there is land available for mass production of sorghum.

France disagrees with EU over suspension of cereal import duties

PARIS, 29 Sept— France holds dissenting views about the European Union’s proposed suspension of cereal import duties. Agriculture Minister Michel Barnier said Thursday. The real problem is not the lifting of tariffs as the current import quotas on duty-free cereals are not affected, Barnier said.

“It would be very difficult to imagine that we could re-establish them (duties)” after the suspension, particularly in view of the ongoing negotiations within the World Trade Organization, he added. Barnier said the EU’s “unilateral” decision had sent a bad signal to its counterpart in the negotiations.

On Wednesday, EU Farm Commissioner Mariann Fischer Boel said she would propose “in the coming days” a suspension of cereal import duties for the bloc’s current marketing year, which ends on 30 June, 2008, to boost cereal imports. —MNA/Xinhua

2-10-07NL 8/1/8, 04:46 AM
Killers in the air waves

It is almost sure that Htay Kywe has a foreign-provided satellite phone. With this phone, he was making contacts with those foreign radio stations to instigate unrest in Myanmar.

I heard news about the arrest of Min Ko Naing from VOA in the early morning on 22-8-2007. I thought that even Min Ko Naing’s girlfriend would not know his arrest. VOA knew about it earlier than her. Citing the rise in fuel prices on 15-8-2007 as the pretext, Min Ko Naing and group were airing slanders through some foreign radio stations to cause unrest in the nation. The government detained Min Ko Naing and group as a precaution to prevent bloodshed and unrest in the nation. But Htay Kywe who could calculate the consequences escaped detention.

It is almost sure that Htay Kywe has a foreign-provided satellite phone. With this phone, he was making contacts with those foreign radio stations to instigate unrest in Myanmar. Abondoner Ma Nilar Thein was trying to win sympathy of the people and monks saying that she had a four-month-old daughter; she did so in an attempt to incite public unrest through the radio waves of foreign broadcasting stations. We truly feel sorry for the children of Ko Jimmy and Ma Nilar Thein. No one who loves the nation and race accepts agitations to cause unrest and bloodshed in the nation.

I tried to organize and persuade Min Ko Naing and his group with my articles “From 75 Nga Min Swe to 88 Min Ko Naing”, “Where have you been Min Ko Naing?”, and “What is important?”. My aim is to ensure national unity and development and prevent unrest and bloodshed. But, I was not successful. I have written time and again that Min Ko Naing is a person who makes selfless sacrifices. I still believe him as a selfless person. But he failed to use his selfless sacrifices in the interest of the nation and the people. His selfless sacrifices are like those of a suicide bomber. I feel sad for this.

Abondoner Htay Kywe and Moe Thee Zun, who is living in luxury in the US since he got there, have been making instigation daily through the wave lengths and laying down strategies. Beginning 20 August, protests occurred sporadically. Those protests were staged only by a handful of NLDs. People do not take part in those protests. Moreover they have no desire at all to do so.

Some foreign radio stations broadcast that monks staging protest walks in Pakokku on 5 September were captured with loops and that captured monks were tied to lamp-posts. I was puzzled about the news report as foreign radio stations are used to airing false or exaggerated news reports. If the news report was true, the acts were beyond tolerance. Severe action should be taken against the culprits. If the monks were tied up with ropes, it would be the result of the anger that reached uncontrollable degree at the scene. It is sure that state level and division level officials would not give orders to commit such acts. On 6 September some monks of Aletaik monastery in Pakokku pounded and torched four cars. If a member of the Sangha destroys or steals other person’s property, he has broken the Sangha rule. So he is no more a monk even if he is still wearing robes. He has become a laayaman again. Burning down other’s property is a serious crime.

Abondoner Htay Kywe and Moe Thee Zun from US taking advantage of the incident in Pakokku were trying to agitate monks through the air waves. The demand concerning the incident should be that a fact-finding committee should be formed to investigate the matter and if it was true, the offender must face legal action; and that action should also be taken against those who burnt down cars. Deliberately ignoring the said just demand, Htay Kywe and Moe Thee Zun in collusion with foreign radio stations were sending instigation through the air waves to cause bloodshed and unrest in the nation.

It is not the first time that Htay Kywe and those foreign radio stations airing agitating news reports. A slanderous news report saying that a woman was raped by security forces was aired in collusion with BBC correspondent Christopher Gunness during 1988 unrest. The Myanmar people were tricked into believing the false news. So the 1988 unrest broke out. Many Myanmar people died in the unrest. I also narrowly escaped death for three times.

We will be developing like China or Vietnam by now, if we have adopted the market economy without facing the unrest. Due to the unrest political opportunists emerged. When the unrest ended, financial institutions and Western nations imposed economic sanctions on Myanmar because of the demands made by those opportunists. Those sanctions hit our nation hard. Our nation lagged behind in development due to the unrest. Myanmar people know well that the nation lost everything during the unrest.

(See page 7)
Killers in the air...
(See page 6)

After the occurrence of the unrest in Myanmar, a certain Western power made instigation to cause a civil commotion in a big Asian nation in 1989. As the big Asian nation was able to solve the problem at its initial stage to prevent it from spreading, the nation has now become an economic power. If the nation failed to solve the problem at its initial stage, its peace, stability and progress will not reach the present stage.

Fabrications of the destructive elements like Htay Kywe and Moe Thee Zun through foreign broadcasting stations caused our national brethren to be in disagreement and consequently, the country has to suffer bloodshed. Tatmadawmen and police force members are committed to risking their lives for their country and the people. Therefore, they will never hesitate to sacrifice their lives in fighting their enemy for the sake of the nation and the people. In reality, they did sacrifice their lives. For the time being, the Tatmadawmen and police members have to be taking action in a gentle way and controlled manner against the protesters and terrorists who come in great number. But any Tatmadaw or police member does not want to take such action. They have to do so only to make sure that the Union is not to break up. I know how they are feeling sorry for their acts.

Translated: TMT+ST

Kyemon: 29-9-2007

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We will be developing like China or Vietnam by now, if we have adopted the market economy without facing the unrest. Due to the unrest political opportunists emerged. When the unrest ended, financial institutions and Western nations imposed economic sanctions on Myanmar because of the demands made by those opportunists. Those sanctions hit our nation hard. Our nation lagged behind in development due to the unrest. Myanmar people know well that the nation lost everything during the unrest.
In accord with the wish and vision of the people, the present government has been substituting multiparty democracy for single party system and market economy for socialist economy through transitional means in entering a new era.

Nation rebuilding tasks

(from page 1)
U Tin Maung Aye and Tachilek column led by U Aye Min marched to the sport ground chanting the People’s Desire and Our Three Main National Causes and took positions at the respective places.

Shan State (East) Union Solidarity and Development Association executive Dr Sai Hse Kaw presided over the ceremony. Members of the panel of Chairmen were member of Shan State Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Nan Ni Lai Saing, member of Shan State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Nan San Tit, Major Lu Ka (Retd) of Shan State (East) War Veterans Organization, Rector Dr Ko Ko Myint of Kengtung University, Chairman U Kya Dae of Lahu Cultural Committee and member U Ar Jo of Akhar Cultural Committee. Executive of the Kengtung District USDA Daw Nan Huan Kham and reserve executive of the Kengtung District USDA Daw Nan Huam Tit acted as master of ceremonies and co-MC respectively. Executive of the Kengtung Township USDA U Aung Htan and those present saluted the State Flag.

Chairman Dr Sai Hse Kaw gave an opening speech. He said that of the two previous constitutions, the 1947 Constitution was hastily drawn to set up an independent state when the nation was free from colonial rule. Due to the weakness which was a stipulation permitting the secession of the certain state from the Union there arose the problem of federal policy that might lead to breaking up the Union. It was one of the bitter experiences of history. At a time the nation was burning with internal strife, political parties were in total disunity due to personality cult and factional and ideological prejudices and there was alien intrusion. Political situation could not be solved within the framework of constitution. The Tatmadaw had to assume the State duties due to unavoidable circumstances. So, the 1947 Constitution expired.

The 1974 Constitution was drawn with the aim of adopting a socialist system, perpetuating national independence, freeing the nation from political and factional prejudices and cementing national unity. It was ratified at the referendum with almost cent per cent public votes.

Constitution is the nation’s basic law covering the task of sharing and entrusting the sovereign power, the (See page 9)
Nation rebuilding tasks cover...

(from page 8)

relations between the State and the people, the duties, the powers, the rights of the people. All nations have their own constitutions which are as important as their life and blood.

Due to the weaknesses including the single party system and restriction of economic opportunities, the 1974 Constitution was not in accord with the public wish. The then government faced a growing problem it could not solve within the bounds of constitution. It was no other than the 1988 unrest.

In accord with the wish and vision of the people, the present government has been substituting multiparty democracy for single party system and market economy for socialist economy through transitional means in entering a new era. Hence, today’s Tatmadaw government is not an ordinary government. It is a government that is in the process of changing from one era to another and one system to the other.

As it is a transitional government it has been rebuilding the nation in all sectors. The nation rebuilding tasks cover the setting up of a discipline-flourishing genuine democratic state in accord with the changing era. The government adopted the seven-step Road Map on 30 August 2003 and informed the world about it. The National Convention adjourned in 1996 resumed on 17 May 2004. The National Convention successfully concluded on 3 September 2007 with the participation of over 1,000 delegates. It did not represent any individual person or single group or party. The NC after overcoming plots of destructionists giving priority only to benefiting a certain party while ignoring the national politics laid down and adopted fundamental principles and detailed basic principles to formulate the new constitution.

As the NC is the first and most important step, its completion is the victory of democracy transition. All the NC delegates representing all the national races including those of the peace groups deserve honour for their efforts till the successful completion of the NC. Hence, the national races of Shan State (East) hail and support the National Convention at which national race delegates discussed the states future with diligence, zeal and intellectual and physical efforts.

They also welcome the Constitution that is like the lighthouse for serving the interest of the nation and the people.

U Sai Than Tun Lay, executive of Shan State (East) USDA, said:

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Nation rebuilding tasks cover...

(from page 9)

our nation is a sovereign one. The nation we want to shape is not to be influenced by big powers. Our nation is home to various national races living in unity and amity.

That is why emphasis has been placed on the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. In addition, the emergence of a constitution is indispensable for the people. If a nation is to practise democracy, an enduring constitution is needed. To draft the constitution, the National Convention started on 1993 with the participation of over 1,000 delegates including 43 from Shan State (East) and it was successfully completed on 3 September 2007. The NC laid down fundamental principles and detailed basic principles to be included in the constitution. Peace and stability and prosperity of the State is dependent upon how enduring the constitution is. The principles were laid down in view of perpetuity of the Union and investment of sovereign power into the citizens. The principles were also adopted in accord with the objectives of the NC. For shaping a discipline-flourishing democratic nation, political, economic, education, health and transport infrastructures have been and are being built. With those infrastructures plus an enduring constitution, the goal of building a democratic nation will be achieved very soon. As all the people of Shan State (East) fully support the constitution that will come into force through the basic principles.

Wa national U Saw Pe of Tachilek District, Shan State (East) seconded the motion, saying that local people of Shan State (East) are looking forward to the emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline. Wa nationals are taking part in the nation-building tasks and public welfare services in cooperation with social organizations. They have realized how considerable success will be achieved if the government, the people and the Tatmadaw make earnest efforts in concert.

Now, the implementation of the State’s seven-step Road Map is in the process. The National Convention that was over successfully on 3 September 2007 is, indeed, a watershed of all national races. The 1947 constitution had loopholes and defects. The 1974 constitution that represented Socialism diminished the role of market economy and the private sector. So, it was no longer effective in 1988. Taking invaluable lessons from the past incidents, the government held the National Convention together with the representatives of the entire people. The future of the nation will reflect farsightedness and genuine goodwill of the government.

The National Convention was launched in January 1993. From January 1993 to March 1996, the NC designated 15 chapter headings suitable for the State constitution. When the NC was in full swing, the NLD walked out of it under the directives of its chairman. Dr Sai Hse Kaw, Executive of Shan State (East) USDA. — MNA

Today’s Tatmadaw government is not an ordinary government.
It is a government that is in the process of changing from one era to another and one system to the other.

U Sai Than Tun Lay, Executive of Shan State (East) USDA. — MNA

The 1974 constitution that represented Socialism diminished the role of market economy and the private sector. So, it was no longer effective in 1988. Taking invaluable lessons from the past incidents, the government held the National Convention together with the representatives of the entire people. The future of the nation will reflect farsightedness and genuine goodwill of the government.

The National Convention was launched in January 1993. From January 1993 to March 1996, the NC designated 15 chapter headings suitable for the State constitution. When the NC was in full swing, the NLD walked out of it under the directives of its western masters. The NC was adjourned in consequence.

The NC resumed on 17 March 2004 and completed on 3 September 2007. The NC held from 1990 to 1996 was attended by 770 representatives. At the NC from 2004 to 2007, 1071 representatives held thorough discussions and adopted the principles necessary for building a genuine and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. They wholeheartedly supported the NC that was successfully convened due to Union Spring committee member effort of the delegates.

He presented some principles relevant to national races such as the future nation will be consisted with one self-administered division for Wa nationals and five self-administered zones for Naga, Danu, Pa-O, Palaung and Kokang national races in addition to seven Regions and States; Region / State Hluttaws will be formed for legislative and executive sectors, and Regions and States will have the rights to form high courts for jurisdiction Region / State-wise; and in Regions, Region Hluttaw representatives— one elected from each national race decided by the authorities concerned as having population which constitutes 0.1 percent of the population of the State, of the remaining national races other than those who have already got the respective Region or as self-administered area in that region; and choose one representative for each national race, if there is any, the population of which is upwards of at least 10,000, residing in the self-administered division or self-administered zone as a leading committee member with the exception of national races who have already got regions or states of their own.

It is apparent that the basic principles are designed to bestow all possible rights to national races. So, they supported the NC and upcoming State constitution.

Li Shan damsul Daw Nan Nu Nu Yi representing Monghayat District Women’s Affairs Organization seconded the motion. She said that our country stood as a sovereign State since time immemorial. However, (see page 11)
Nation rebuilding tasks cover...

(from page 10)

The country lost its independence and sovereignty once. It regained independence and sovereignty through the Union Spirit of national races. There were 1947 Constitution and 1974 Constitution in the country. One referred to parliamentary democracy and another to socialist economic system. These constitutions were not in conformity with changes of history and thus they came to a halt. The constitution is essential in the country indeed. After assuming responsibilities of the State, Tatmadaw Government is building the country through might and main in accord with the people’s desire. On the other hand, the National Convention to draw the State Constitution was held for six times from 1993 to 1996 and five times from 2004 to 2007.

The National Convention successfully concluded on 3 September 2007. The National Convention laid down basic principles and detailed basic principles regarding mother, child, and people old and infirm, peasants, workers, intellectuals and intelleltsia and economic affairs. There are two Hluttaws at the central level, and state and divisional Hluttaws at the state and divisional levels.

The Government will not nationalize private-owned businesses and demonetize the currency put on circulation. These principles are the rights and economic opportunities of the entire national people. The entire national people are to serve the interests of the State regardless of the threat posed by any person, any organization and any foreign country. The forthcoming constitution will bring about the desire and life of the people effectively and widely. Moreover, it will strive for the emergence of peaceful, modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation. We the entire national people will never fear internal and external destructive elements.

Therefore, I absolutely support and welcome the National Convention and State Constitution.

Afterwards, Akha national U Ar Hpa seconded the motion of supporting the National Convention and the constitution.

He said: If we analyse the detailed basic principles laid down at the National Convention, we can find that the Union System can be established based on these principles for the future nation. According to the detailed principles, any divisions, states or autonomous regions are not allowed to secede from the Union. The principles shall guarantee all national races have witnessed that the government has made efforts for development of the economic, education, health and investment sectors of the country. Today’s developments will benefit the future nation. Today’s developments are fruits of efforts that have been made since 1988.

Especially, Shan State (East) has enjoyed the community peace and stability. As all situations in Myanmar have returned to peace and stability, the momentum of development of the country will continue to accelerate. The community peace and prevalence of law and order play a vital role in making efforts for the development of a country and are very important for the people to do work and live in peace. Those who love the nation and the people are to take responsibility to guard against the danger to the community peace and stability in order that the people can live in peace. Therefore, we support the National Convention and hail the new constitution.

Afterwards, Daw Na Ngwe, a representative of Monghsat District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, seconded the motion of supporting the National Convention and the constitution.

She said after regaining independence the country passed through the parliamentary democracy period. From 1948 to 1962 there occurred coloured insurgency. The people suffered the split of political parties such as the ruling party and other parties. Community peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order is essential for establishment of any social system. All the people had experienced the worst conditions as there was no firm foundation in the parliamentary democracy. Finally, the country was on the verge of disintegration of the Union. The country established the socialist democratic nation under the 1974 constitution. However, it had to face hardships due to lack of consolidated unity and peace, limitations on private economic opportunities and political and economic deterioration.

The Tatmadaw government had to build community peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order. There is peace and tranquility in Shan State (East) as it built national reconsolidation through patience, understanding and confidence. I warmly support the historic measures at the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution with the fundamental principles.

Next, U Soe Win of Shan State (East) Special Region-4 seconded the motion calling for support of the National Convention and the constitution.

Our country is a sovereign nation. There were two constitutions and they have now become defunct. That was why the National Convention was held for drafting the constitution. Shan State (East) Special Region-4 seconded the National Convention and seven-step Road Map. We expressed our attitudes with sincerity. Our suggestions were discussed at the National Convention in conformity with a new nation to emerge.

The other principles laid down are in conformity with the practical life of the people. We will participate in the tasks for building of a peaceful modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation.

Next, the chairman sought the approval of the people and passed a resolution to support the National Convention and the State Constitution.

The attendees chanted slogans and the ceremony to support the National Convention and the State Constitution came to an end later in the morning.
**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV CHUNG VOY NO (716)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEE HONG VOY NO (716) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.10.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expense 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 EAGLE SHIPPING CO., LTD**

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Toyota Indonesia in full capacity, unable to boost output

**JAKARTA, 30 Sept**—The Indonesian branch of Japanese auto giant Toyota said Saturday its plants are in full capacity due to peaking demand for small engine Avanza, with customers even buying in advance for deliveries in up to three months.

Toyo said without elaborating.

MNA/Xinhua

**Series of quakes hit Sumatra, Indonesia**

**JAKARTA, 30 Sept**—A series of earthquakes with magnitudes of 5.8-5.9 rocked Aceh Province in the northern tip of Indonesia’s Sumatra Island on Saturday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said here.

The magnitude 5.9 quake struck at 12:37 Jakat time (0537 GMT) with the epicenter 68 kilometres northwest of Sinabang Town of the province and at 107 kilometres under sea bed, an official of the agency named only Sutoyono told Xinhua.

The intensity of the quake was felt at 3 to 4 MMI (modified mercury intensity), a scale that can crack buildings in the town and the towns of Meulaboh and Simelui in the province, he said.

The other quake jolted five minutes earlier with the epicenter at 93 kilometres northwest of Sinabang town of the province and at 30 kilometres under sea bed, said Sutoyono. The intensity of the quake was felt at 3 to 4 MMI at Sinabang and Meulaboh towns, he said.

Over 170,000 people were killed when a tsunami triggered by strong quake devastated coastal areas of the province and other ASEAN countries.

Indonesia lies on a vulnerable quake-hit zone so called “the Pacific Ring of Fire,” where two continental plates meet causing frequent seismic and volcanic movements.—MNA/Xinhua

14 killed in Iran road crash

**TEHERAN, 30 Sept**—A tanker fuel collided with a bus in southeastern Iran setting the two vehicles on fire and killing 14 people, ISNA news agency reported on Saturday.

Fifteen people were injured in the incident on Friday evening in the south-eastern province of Sistan-Baluchestan, which borders Pakistan, it added.

“Because the tanker was carrying fuel the two vehicles caught fire and because of its intensity, 12 passengers along with the two drivers ... were killed,” ISNA said.

Statistics show that one person dies every 20 minutes on Iran’s roads, one of the highest road accident rates in the world. The frequent crashes are blamed on reckless driving, poor quality roads and inadequate police supervision.—MNA/Reuters

Quake near Guam sways buildings, no damage reported

**GUAM, 1 Oct**—A strong earthquake swayed buildings on the Pacific island of Guam on Sunday but there were no immediate reports of damage and no tsunami alert was issued.

The magnitude 7.1 quake occurred at 12.09 pm local time (0209 GMT) near the US territory, with its epicentre at a depth of 30 kilometres, Japan’s Meteorological Agency said on its Web site (www.jma.go.jp/en/quake).

Some residents said high-rise blocks swayed and goods fell off supermarket shelves. But two hours after the quake, local television had reported no damage to buildings on Guam, an island east of the Philippines which is home to a major US military base.—MNA/Reuters
Malaysia calls for understanding between different cultures

UNITED NATIONS, 29 Sept — Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi called for greater understanding between different cultures and civilizations on Friday.

Speaking at the general debate of the 62nd session of the UN General Assembly, Badawi said that the main cause for the problem of the discord that is growing between Islam in general and the west as a whole is “the misperception in the West that Islam promotes exclusivity and encourages extremism”.

“We must take action to generate greater understanding between the followers of different cultural and civilizational traditions,” he said, adding that “such dialogues will establish the truth that Islam is a religion which espouses universalism not exclusivity, tolerance not bigotry”.

Badawi rebutted the viewpoint to blame on religion as the cause of the existing disputes between nations, saying “all genuine religions advocate peace and harmony among peoples as well as acceptance of others”.

He stressed that religion is not the root cause of the world’s troubles. “The root of the matter is political, not religious,” the Prime Minister noted.

Three soldiers shot dead in Thai south

BANGKOK, 29 Sept — Suspected insurgents Friday gunned down three soldiers in a pick-up truck in southern Thailand’s province of Pattani’s Saiburi District.

The bodies of three soldiers were found in their bullet ridden pick-up truck. The three soldiers had been shot in the head, according to the Thai News Agency.

According to a preliminary investigation, the soldiers left Saiburi Islam Wittaya School after they provided military training to students. An unknown number of gunmen on a motorcycle followed them and opened fire at the soldiers’ pick-up truck. The driver lost control of his car and hit roadside trees. The gunmen shot them again in the vehicle to finish them off.

Meanwhile, a bomb was detonated under a truck carrying seven people in nearby Yarang District, also in Pattani, injuring seven people including a pregnant woman.

Pattani and its neighbouring provinces of Narathiwat and Yala have been hit by insurgents on an almost daily basis and nearly 2,400 persons have died in over three years of violence.

South Africa slaughters pigs infected with disease

JOHANNESBURG, 29 Sept — Two and a half thousand pigs infected with blue ear disease were slaughtered in three regions about 1,400 kilometres southwest of Johannesburg, The Cape Times reported on Friday.

The report said that the infected areas are the Caledon, Worcester and Malmesbury regions, and another 3,000 are to be slaughtered by the end of next month.

Late last month, the Western Cape provincial department of agriculture confirmed that an outbreak of blue ear, or porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, had been detected on a Klappnurs farm.

India’s first moon mission to take off next April

MUMBAI, 29 Sept — India will launch a locally built rocket on the country’s first unmanned mission to the moon next April, the head of the project said on Friday.

“We have decided on 9 April, but if there’s any problem then we have launch windows in the following couple of days,” M Annadurai told Reuters.

Despite limited funding, India operates an extensive space programme consisting of launch vehicles, satellites and data-processing centres.

The state-run Indian Space Research Organization launched four satellites on a single rocket for the first time in January, including one that was brought back to earth to set the stage for the country to send an astronaut into space by 2014 and a manned mission to the moon by 2020.

India’s space programme was launched as a scientific research effort after the country gained independence from British colonial rule but it has now begun to make money from commercial launches.— M/Reuters

The root of the matter is political, not religious,” the Prime Minister noted.

He further pointed out that there is a tendency to blame history, “but there is no evidence in history which point to religion as the cause for the current discord between cultures and civilizations”.

“It is not the explanation for the existence of conflicts between Western and Muslim countries,” Badawi said. “The answer lies in more recent times, which is the repeated use of force by the powerful over the weak to secure strategic or territorial gains.”

London, 29 Sept — motorists who smoke at the wheel could be prosecuted if their habit is proved to have stopped them driving safely, under a new rule in the revised edition of the Highway Code.

Any arrest would be at the discretion of the police officer stopping the vehicle.

“They could face charges yes, but it’s only if someone was deemed not to be in proper control of the vehicle and a danger to road users,” said a Department of Transport spokesman, stressing the advisory nature of the safety rule.

“Smoking has been added for the first time to a long list of other potential distractions which include playing loud music, eating and drinking, changing a CD or turning on a radio,” he said.

He said the measure was added after evidence revealed smoking at the wheel had caused or contributed to accidents.

“There are cases where smoking has been taking place and an accident has occurred,” he added.

The measure is one of 29 new rules that have been added to the Highway Code, in its first revision for eight years.

Critics rounded on the decision, with some saying the smoking recommendation could cause more crashes.

“The problem here is that there’s no evidence from anywhere in the world that smoking is a significant contributory factor in crashes,” said Paul Smith, founder of SafeSpeed.org.uk.

MNA/Reuters

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MNA/Reuters
**SPORTS**

**Inter Milan go top after routing Roma**

**ROMA, 30 Sept** — Inter Milan took over as Serie A leaders with a 4-1 win in the top-of-the-table clash at AS Roma on Sat-

day.

Zlatan Ibrahimovic put the champions in front with a spot kick in the 29th minute after Luiz

Guily handled a goalbound header to earn a red card.

It was the Swedish striker’s seventh goal of the campaign.

Roma hit back eight minutes after the break when Italian midfielder Simone Perrotta took ad-

vantage of careless defending by Maxwell.

Inter regained the lead almost immediately through substitute Hernan Crespo, who smashed
goal home the rebound after a shot by Argentine compa-

trio Esteban Cambiasso.

Julio Cruz added the third goal in the 60th

minute with a low left-

footed drive from outside

the penalty area.

Colombian defender Ivan Cordoba sealed the

win with a header in the

68th.

Inter have 14 points from six games, two points more than Fiorentina who

won 3-0 at Tuscan rivals Livorno.— MNA/Reuters

**Henry grabs hat-trick as Barca thrash Levante**

**MADRID, 30 Sept** — Thierry Henry scored a hat-trick to steer Barce-

lona to a 4-1 win at bottom

Club Levante in the Primera Liga on Saturday.

The French striker had

notched his first Barca goal in the 3-0 victory over

Olympique Lyonnais in the Champions League last

week and broke his Primera Liga duck with
two early goals against

Levante.

Henry completed his

hat-trick just after the re-

start and almost immedi-

ately Argentina’s Lionel

Messi made it four.

Levante pulled one back from the penalty spot through Emiliano Viqueria but offered little threat.

Barca’s first away win

put them top of the table

with 14 points from six

games, one ahead of Real

Madrid who visit strug-

gling Getafe on Sunday.

Earlier, Real Zaragoza

condemned Visitors

Sevilla to their fourth con-

secutive defeat after win-

ning 2-0.

**Bayern beat Leverkusen to stay atop Bundesliga**

**BERLIN, 30 Sept** — Luca

 Toni tapped in a Mirsad

 Klose cross just before unbeaten

Bayern Munich clinched a 1-0 vic-

tory in a top-of-the-table clash at Bayer Leverkusen in the Bundesliga on Saturday.

France midfielder Franck Ribery headed over to Germany striker Klose, who spun around
defender Manuel Friedrich on the left and sent a pinpoint cross to Toni streaking into the
middle for the match-win-
cer in the 40th minute.

Bayern, who also had a

Klose goal that bounced

in off the crossbar and then

out again disallowed in the

13th minute, held onto first

place with 20 points from

their eight matches while

Leverkusen slipped from

second to fourth on 14

points. Bayern lead

Schalke 04, the only other unbeaten side, by four

points. Schalke moved

into second after beating

Hertha Berlin 1-0 on Fri-
day while newly pro-

moted Karlsruhe SC

jumped to third with a 3-

1 win at home over

Borussia Dortmund.

— MNA/Reuters

**Lyon go top after thumping strugglers Lens**

**PARIS, 30 Sept** — Olympique Lyon crushed

strugglers Racing Lens 3-

0 to move top of Ligue 1 on Saturday. The home win gave Lyon, chasing a seventh conse-

cutive title, a welcome morale boost before they host Rangers in the Champions League on

Tuesday.

Lyon have 19 points from nine matches. Sur-

prise packages Nancy are on the same points but have played one game less.

Brazilian midfielder Fabio dos Santos opened the scoring from close range late in the first half of a match that was post-

poned last month because of European club compe-

tion.

Television replays suggested he might have been narrowly offside.

Sweden midfielder Kim Kallstrom exploited a blunder by the defence to make it 2-0 with nine

minutes left and France

striker Karim Benzema wrapped up victory with a superb goal.

— MNA/Reuters

**Feyenoord beat Heerenveen 2-0 to go back on top**

**AMSTERDAM (Netherlands), 30 Sept** — Feyenoord

returned to the top of the Dutch League on Saturday after Roy Makaay and Nick Hof's scored in a 2-0 home

win over Heerenveen. Second-placed PSV Eindhoven are a point behind after being held to a 1-1 draw at

NAC Breda, Ajax Amsterdam, who started the week-

end in first place, host VVV Venlo on Sunday.

Makaay put Feyenoord ahead after 21 minutes when he netted a rebound after Luigi Bruins hit the

post and seven minutes later Hof's doubled the lead with a close range header.

Matthew Amoah put NAC in front 20 minutes into the second half as PSV goalkeeper Gomez was beaten for the first time this season but 11 minutes later Danko Lazovic set up Kenneth Perez for the equalizer.

Feyenoord have 15 points from six matches with

PSV on 14 ahead of Ajax with 13. Twente Enschede, who visit fifth-placed Graafschap Doetinchem, have

11 points.— MNA/Reuters

**AS Roma’s captain Francesco Totti passes the ball during a training session at Old Trafford Stadium, in Manchester, England, on 1 Oct, 2007, before his team’s Champion’s League soccer match against Manchester United scheduled for Tuesday. — INTERENT**

**Terry fractures cheekbone as Chelsea woes go on**

**LONDON, 30 Sept** — England skipper John Terry went off with a de-

pressed fracture of his cheekbone. Didier Drogba

was sent off and Chelsea

were booed off after they

were held to a 0-0 draw at

Fullham in the west Lon-
don derby on Saturday.

Terry went off after being elbowed in the face by Fullham’s American

striker Clint Dempsey as both rose for a ball after just three minutes of their Premier League match at

Stamford Bridge.

He is now doubtful for

England’s next two Euro

2008 qualifiers against

Estonia and Russia next

month and will miss Chel-

sea’s Champions League
tie in Valencia on Wed-

nesday.

Avram Grant’s first match as coach of Chelsea at Stamford Bridge since

Jose Mourinho left last week was a subdued af-

cair for the home crowd

who also booed off Andriy

Shevchenko, substituted

aftr 54 minutes on his 31st birthday.

Chelsea fell to seventh in the Premier League ta-

ble after failing to score for the fourth successive league match — their worst run for nine years.

“We had seven or eight chances,” a subdued Grant told reporters afterwards.

“We created enough

chances to score but didn’t.”

Chelsea's woes were compounded when African

Footballer of the Year and

last season’s top scorer

Didier Drogba of the Ivory

Coast, got his marching orders for dissent and a

reckless hand tackle on the
day he returned after four

matches out injured.

— MNA/Reuters

**Thousands of Germany’s national women’s soccer team fans were national flag as they gathered in the Roemerberg market square in Frankfurt to welcome the 2007 FIFA Women’s World Cup winners on their return to Germany on 1 Oct, 2007. A solid defence and clinical efficiency in front of goal allowed Germany to triumph 2-0 over Brazil in Shanghai, China, to become the first back-to-back winners of the women’s World Cup. — INTERNET**
Huge crowds in Costa Rica protest US pact

SAN JOSE (Costa Rica), 1 Oct — More than 100,000 Costa Ricans, some dressed as skeletons, protested a US trade pact on Sunday they say will flood their country with cheap farm goods and cause job losses.

In the searing heat, some protesters wore masks of US President George W Bush and handed out fake dollar bills lampooning US trade policies.

A small contingent of pro-trade demonstrators turned out at the rally. A plane pulled a banner across the skyline reading: “Yes to the free-trade accord, for the benefit of the nation!” The drone of the plane’s engine drowned out some of the protest speeches.

A government official told Reuters that more than 100,000 people turned out for the demonstration, a huge protest in a country of 4 million.

Costa Rica is the only country that has not ratified CAFTA — which includes Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic — and will be the only nation to decide the issue by referendum.

The October 7 referendum has split the nation, with Costa Rican President Oscar Arias and some businesses saying CAFTA will bring investment and jobs. Opponents say it will mean a flood of cheap rice and dairy imports and limit the country’s sovereignty by taking investment disputes to international arbitration.

The White House struggled on support for CAFTA in the US House of Representatives in 2005, where a partisan battle almost killed the deal.

A poll last week showed a slim majority would support CAFTA, with 50.6 percent saying they opposed it. The poll’s margin of error was ±3 percent. — MNA/Reuters

London police in dock over Brazilian’s shooting

LONDON, 1 Oct — London’s police force goes on trial Monday accused of breaking health and safety laws over the killing of an innocent Brazilian man, shot in the head seven times by officers who mistook him for a suicide bomber.

Jean Charles de Menezes, 27, was gunned down as he boarded an underground train in south London on July 22, 2005 by officers who had wrongly identified him as one of four men who tried to attack the London transport system the day before.

The botched suicide bombings, just two weeks after four young British Islamists killed themselves and 52 people on three underground trains and a bus in the capital’s worst peacetime attack, sparked a frantic manhunt by British police.

Prosecutors brought the rare corporate charge against London’s Metropolitan Police Service after deciding last year there was insufficient evidence to charge individual officers involved in the operation, to the fury of de Menezes’s family.

Police are accused under health and safety laws of failing to conduct “the planning and the implementation of the surveillance, pursuit, arrest and detention of a suspected suicide bomber” in a way that ensured the public and de Menezes “were not exposed to risks”.

MNA/Reuters

WEATHER

Monday, 1 October, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:
During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah, Shan and Chin States, scattered in Rakhine and Kayin States, Saguang and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin State, Magway, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavy falls in Saguang, Mandalay and Magway Divisions.

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were: Hhamti (4.13) inches, Myitk (2.29) inches, Pakokku (2.08) inches, CoCo Island (1.74) inches, Kanbau and Khanyaw (1.61) inches each and Pyinuma (1.49) inches.

Maximum temperature on 30-9-2007 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 1-10-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 1-10-2007 was 92%. Total sunshine hours on 30-9-2007 was (0.7) hours approx.

Rainfall on 10-10-2007 was (0.04) inch at Mngaladal, (0.06) inch at Kaba-Aye and (Tr) Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-10-2007 was (126.69) inches at Mngaladal, (130.55) inches at Kaba-Aye and (134.68) inches at Central Yangon.

Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 4 mph from Northwest at (16:30) hours MST on 30-9-2007.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, a low pressure area has formed over West Central Bay and monsoons are moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 2-10-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Shan State, lower Saguang, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, scattered in Chin and Kayah States, upper Saguang Division, fairly widespread in Kachin and Rakhine States, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Mon State and Taninthayi Division. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph. Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of decrease of rain in Shan State.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 2-10-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 2-10-2007: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 2-10-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

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People’s Desire

☆ We favour stability.
☆ We favour peace.
☆ We oppose unrest and violence.

☆ RFA, VOA and BBC airing skyful of lies
☆ RFA, VOA and BBC saboteurs, watch your step!
☆ The public be warned of killers in the air waves — RFA, VOA and BBC

☆ Skyful liars attempting to destroy nation
☆ BBC lying
☆ VOA deceiving
☆ RFA setting up hostilities
☆ Beware! Don’t be bought by those slickers

Mass rallies against protests held in Shwebo, Wetlet

NAT PR T. W., 1 Oct—Those who are desirous of the stability of State, community peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order today held mass rallies against protests staged recently by some member of the Sangha and the NLD in Shwebo, Wetlet in Shwebo District, Sagaing Division with the concept that the protests destroyed the living conditions of the people. They organized the rally after seeking the rally from the authorities concerned in accord with the law.

Altogether 8,200 people in Shwebo at 7.15 am today marched from Yangyiung Park to the junction along Yangyiung road, and then from Yangyiung Sports Ground to Sibinthayar Park passing the People’s Hospital and the tax-free market, chanting Our Three Main National Causes and holding the placards that read “We favour stability”, “We favour peace”, “We favour development”, “We oppose violence”, “We guard against violence”, “Violent protesters are our enemy”, “Stop foreign instigation”, “Violence is contrary to democracy”, “We oppose foreign instigation”, “Seven-point Road Map must meet with success”.

(See page 5)