The Law for the Second Amending of the Judiciary Law 2000 issued


The Union of Myanmar
The State Peace and Development Council

The Law for the Second Amending of the Judiciary Law 2000
(The State Peace and Development Council Law No 7/2007)
(The 9th Waning of Tawthalin 1369 ME)
(5th October, 2007)

The State Peace and Development Council hereby enacts the following law:

2. Section 4 of the Judiciary Law 2000 shall be substituted as follows:
   “4. The Supreme Court shall sit in Nay Pyi Taw. If necessary, it may also sit in Yangon, Mandalay and in any other suitable place.”

(Sd) Than Shwe
Senior General
Chairman
The State Peace and Development Council

UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy Mr Gambari pays
courtesy calls on Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and
Acting Prime Minister Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein

Meets Spokes Authoritative Team of SPDC, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, officials of Myanmar
Motion Picture Asiayon, Myanmar Music Asiayon, UN agencies and Religious Affairs Ministry

Tours Shan State (North) to study development achievements

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct — Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General Mr Ibrahim Agboda Gambari and delegation arrived the Union of Myanmar on 29 September.

On 2nd October, Mr Gambari paid a courtesy call on Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe at the Bayint Naung Yeiktha here.

On 30 September, Mr Gambari paid a courtesy call on Acting Prime Minister Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein at the Hall of the Prime Minister’s Office here. Mr Gambari also met with Spokes Authoritative Team of the State Peace and Development Council at the meeting room of the Ministry of Information here the same day.

On 30 September and 2 October Mr Gambari met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the Seinle Kantha State Guest House in Yangon twice. Moreover, he met with the Resident Coordinator and officials of UN agencies, executive committees of the Myanmar Motion Picture Asiayon and Myanmar Music Asiayon and officials of the Ministry of Religious Affairs in Yangon.

On 1 October, Mr Gambari and delegation arrived Lashio by special aircraft and proceeded to Kaungkha town of the Special Region No 5 in northern Shan State. There, Mr Gambari and delegation met with residential national race leader U Mahtu Naw. Afterwards, Mr Gambari and delegation visited the 700-acre land reclamation for terrace cultivation and opium substitute crops cultivation project. Then, they left for Muse. At the Shweli Yadana Yeiktha in Muse, officials concerned explained matters on regional development activities, border trade activities and Shweli hydroelectric power project.

Later, Mr Gambari and delegation viewed round the town and left for Lashio. In the evening, they attended the dinner hosted by North East Command Commander Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut. On 2 October, Mr Gambari and delegation viewed round Lashio and left for Nay Pyi Taw.

The Spokes Authoritative Team of the State Peace and Development Council met with Mr Gambari at the meeting room of the Ministry of Information here on 30 September. On behalf of the State Peace and Development Council Leader of the Spokes Authoritative Team Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan made clarifications on the clarification of Myanmar. The clarifications were as follows. (See page 4)
Building of a new nation

The government is making constant efforts in the process of transition to discipline-flourishing democracy.

It held the National Convention in accord with the people’s desires after laying down the seven-step Road Map. The National Convention laid down the fundamental principles for the drawing of a new constitution.

The events which occurred most recently vividly showed that there are external and internal destructive elements who are eager to obstruct the prevailing political trend.

They used the protests staged by a small number of people with the excuse of the rising of fuel prices for their political gains.

With the support of some big powers the destructive elements made an attempt to take the course of confrontation. At present, the situation in Myanmar is back to normal as the violent protests have been put under control.

The international community in its consideration is required to have constructive attitude toward the nation rather than worsening the situation.

Prevalence of law is a principle accepted by every nation. With the prevalence of law tasks for community peace and stability and development can be carried out, thereby contributing to ensuring human rights and democracy.

At present, people who favour peace and stability are holding mass rallies throughout the nation with the concept that violent protests are harming the national development.

At a time when efforts are being made for the emergence of a modern and developed nation in accord with the seven-step Road Map it is necessary to get rid of the perpetration of internal and external destructive elements. Only then, will the emergence of a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation be possible.

Cash donated to build MANA’s HQ

YANGON, 5 October—Lashio Township Anti-narcotics Association, residents of Ward 9, Naungmon and Nang-paung, members of DIC and staff donated K 603,000 for building Myanmar Anti-narcotics Association (Head-quarters) through President U San Thein of MANA on 2 October. Those who wish to donate cash for the building may contact telephone number 01-667270 at MANA, Room No.101/102, Building-3, Myainghaywun Housing, Kyaiwaing Pagoda Road, Mayangon Township.—MNA

Patrons of MWSF donate cash for Wushu athletes

Khaing, Dr Daw Yi Yi Htwe and Daw Tin Min Latt donated K 500,000 and food for Wushu athletes who are under training for competitions of XXIV SEA Games on 3 October at the Wushu training camp in Padonmar stadium in Sangyoung Township.—H

FM arrives back after attending 62nd session of UNGA

NAV PYI TAW, 5 October—Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win arrived back here yesterday after attending the 62nd session of UN General Assembly. The minister participated at the High-level Event on Climate Change held at the UN Headquarters on 24 September and made a statement on “Financing the Response to Climate Change.”

On 1 October, the minister delivered a general statement at the plenary session of General Assembly. The discussions of the minister focused on overriding international issues including climate change, combating terrorism, poverty alleviation, UN reform and fight against narcotic drugs and apprised the Assembly of the recent developments in the political process including the successful conclusion of the National Convention as well as the factual accounts of the situation with regard to the recent events in Myanmar.

On 23 September, the minister met staff and family members of the Permanent Mission of Myanmar in New York.

On 26 September, the minister held discussions with Mr Ibrahim Gambari, Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser of the Secretary-General. On the same day the minister met UNSG Mr Ban Ki-moon. The minister also met Mr Carlos Morales Troncoso, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Dominican Republic and received Ms Radhika Coomaraswamy, Under-Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

On 27 September, the minister attended presentations on ASEAN Charter and the meeting between the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and the UN Secretary-General. On the same day, the minister met ASEAN Foreign Ministers and the US Secretary of State was held. The minister was represented by Myanmar ASEAN SOM leader Director-General of the Political Department U Phae Thann Oo and Permanent Representative of Myanmar to UN Ambassador U Kyaw Tint Swe.

On 28 September, the minister attended Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement. The minister was represented by U Phae Thann Oo at the Asia Cooperation Dialogue Ministerial Meeting. On the same day, the minister held separate discussions with Mr Yang Jeichi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China, Mr Masahiko Koumura, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan and Mr Bruno Stagno Ugai, Minister for Foreign Affairs of The Republic of Costa Rica.

On 1 October, the minister held separate meetings with MR Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs of India, Dr Hassan Wirajuda, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and Mr Manouchehr Mottaki, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.—MNA
US defence buildup comes amid fiscal pinch

WASHINGTON, 4 Oct— The price of the world’s most expensive security blanket—the US defence budget—is growing robustly just as Washington can least afford it, with an aging population soon demanding their promised retirement and health benefits, lawmakers and independent analysts said. The US Senate on Wednesday was poised to approve nearly $460 billion US dollars to allow the Pentagon to pay soldiers, buy weapons and conduct research over the next 12 months.

Restaurant’s chilli causes London chemical scare

LONDON, 4 Oct— A Thai restaurant’s potent homemade chilli sauce caused a chemical scare in central London, with police shutting streets and firefighters forced to smash down the door.

The chef was baffled by the commotion. “I was making a spicy dip with extra-hot chillis that are made into pao chilli sauce. Scuffles broke out at check points around Jerusalem as crowds of Palestinians attempted to make their way to a famous shrine.

Palestinians and Israeli troops clash

JERUSALEM, 5 Oct— Thousands of Palestinians trying to take part in the final day prayers of Ramadan clashed with Israeli troops on Friday.

The US House of Representatives on Tuesday passed the Ethiopian Democracy and Accountability Act, which demands Washington’s top counter-terrorism partner in the Horn of Africa make a host of democratic changes or face security aid cuts.

Ethiopia angry at proposed US aid sanction

NAIROBI, 4 Oct— Ethiopia on Wednesday strongly criticized a US law moving through Congress that links continued aid to democratic reforms, calling it a threat to regional stability and its close military ties with Washington.

Gulf Arabs say opposed to partition of Iraq

RIYADH, 4 Oct— The head of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which brings together energy-rich Gulf Arab states including Saudi Arabia, said on Tuesday Gulf Arabs were strongly opposed to any partition of Iraq.

Mottaki says US cannot start war against Iran

UNITED NATIONS, 5 Oct— Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said on Wednesday the United States was in no position to start a war against Iran given its military commitment in Iraq.

It was unclear how much aid could be involved.

“The legislation also would undermine regional stability in the Horn of Africa by jeopardizing vital security cooperation between the United States and Ethiopia,” Ethiopia’s Ambassador to the United States, Samuel Assefa, said in a statement.

He said if “the irresponsible legislation” becomes law, “it would create fresh obstacles to Ethiopia’s bold efforts toward comprehensive democratic reforms.”

While 460 billion US dollars may seem like a staggering amount, it is just a portion of the total US defence budget for this fiscal year that started on Monday. The price tag actually could top 200 billion US dollars when including nearly 200 billion US dollars sought for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and funds for building military bases, taking care of a growing number of wounded and sick veterans and nuclear weapons activities.

With no end in sight to the Iraq war now in its fifth year, members of Congress and Pentagon officials looking beyond this year worry about a fraying military that will need even more money to fix.

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Israelis and Palestinians are trying to take part in the final day prayers of Ramadan, which are considered the most important of the year, when Muslims observe a month of fasting.

It provoked a storm of protest from Iraqi politicians including Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki, who said it would be a disaster for Iraq. Only Iraq’s Kurds, who already enjoy autonomy in the north of the country, openly welcomed it.

“We in the Gulf Cooperation Council reject any policies that lean towards anything that is in the line of the UN resolution,” said the council’s secretary-general, Saud al-Qahtani.

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The United States was in no position to start a war against Iran given its military commitment in Iraq. The “US is not in the position to impose another war in the region against the (US) taxpayers,” Mottaki told a news conference at the United Nations.

The Iranian minister said that assessment—“based on the realities in the region”—did not rule out Iranian precautions.

“Any country, based on its defence policies and doctrine, should be prepared,” he said.

The United States has said it seeks a diplomatic solution to a dispute with Teheran over its nuclear programme but that no option has been taken off the table. Washington fears Iran is seeking nuclear weapons, something Teheran denies.

Mottaki, speaking in English, said that every six months there was a “kind of psychological war” relating to the US option of a strike against Iran.

“We are receiving information which looked very exact of some specific hour and date that the strike will take place,” he said.
Clarifications by Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan to UNSG’s Special Envoy Mr. Ibrahim Gambari

(from page 1)

First and foremost, I’d like to say that I am very glad to meet you for the third time and Your Excellency is warmly welcomed. We are the spokespersons of the State Peace and Development Council. Let me introduce my colleagues to you. The person on my right is Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint and the one on the left is Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu representing his Minister who is now on a trip abroad.

Recently our group met and discussed with Deputy Assistant Secretary of State of USA Mr Eric John in Beijing. Now, having an opportunity to meet with you, we would like to apprise you of the progress of the seven-step Road Map and democracy reform as well as the situations caused by inside and outside antigovernment groups trying to jeopardize the momentum being achieved in democratic reform.

Since the Government took over State responsibilities unavoidably in 1988, priority has constantly been given to ensuring stability. At the same time, we have been making energetic efforts with might and main towards democratic reform.

We have declared the seven-step Road Map to the world for building up our nation into a democratic State. Now, we have completed the holding of National Convention which is the first step of the Road Map. All delegates of the National Convention have unanimously adopted Fundamental Principles & detailed basic principles. According to these principles adopted by the National Convention, a Constitution with basic democratic rights for the people will emerge. Similarly, the national races will have extensive range of rights to exercise legislative, administrative and judicial powers. In addition to the existing seven States, Wa, Danu, Paung, Pa-O, Kokang and Naga nationals will have Self Administered Division or Self administered Zone to exercise legislative, administrative and judicial powers.

Efforts are also being made for the minorities who do not get Self Administered Division or Self Administered Zone to exercise legislative, administrative and judicial powers.

Provisions guaranteeing the rights of various sectors including citizen sector, religious sector, social sector, etc which will be equal to those of other democratic nations will be prescribed in the forthcoming Constitution. Hence, we would like to stress that the Constitution to be drafted with the Fundamental Principles & detailed basic principles will be the one most suitable to our nation. These Fundamental Principles & detailed basic principles are adopted unanimously by all the delegates from every township including those delegates from former armed groups which have returned to the legal fold.

In undertaking democratic reform, we have to start with the steps harmonious to the prevailing conditions and current situations. We will get little advantage and much disadvantage if we give priority to the wishes & dreams rather than to prevailing conditions. Democracy will mature with the intellectual level and maturity of the people and developments in economic, education, social and political fields. Only when the people are well-educated nations have achieved mature stage of democracy in this way. Likewise, Myanmar’s democratic reform will mature and develop gradually.

In transforming a nation into a democratic one, essential requirements are the prevalence of peace & the rule of law; the prosperity of the people; and the well educated citizens. Hence, nation building efforts are made politically, economically and socially. We would like to stress the point that according to the conditions of our nation, democratic reform cannot be made forcefully. It is, however, not in harmony with democracy, we assume.

Regarding the situations in Myanmar, the National Convention process started in 1993 and NLD participated in it till 1995. NLD walked out of the National Convention on its own volition in 1995 due to the sole instruction of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Since then, antigovernment groups inside and outside the country made attacks jeopardizing the National Convention which is the first step of the Road Map. NLD has constantly been sticking to its policies for Defiance of All Orders; Confrontation; Imposing Four Kinds of Sanctions; and Relying on External Elements. Likewise, the remaining anti-government groups inside and outside the country have been making attacks on all fronts such as political, social, humanitarian, etc. On the other hand, with the technical advancement and IT development of western powers, media are making exaggerations and fabrications to instigate and agitate the people.

However, the Government resists all the attacks and strives for bringing about democracy and market economy. Consequently, the National Convention which had been adjourned temporarily was reconvened in the year 2004 as a part of the process of political transition. In view of ensuring the national reconciliation, all official political parties including NLD were invited to participate in the National Convention. It shows the commitment of the Government’s effort in building up the nation into a democratic one unitedly while ensuring national reconciliation.

However, NLD did not join the National Convention and continued to make anti-government activities according to its policies. It was the second time NLD turned back and walked out of the National Convention. The anti-government groups inside and outside the country made attacks together with NLD harmoniously against the Government. Since the 1988 generation students group led by Min Ko Naing staged a walk protest on the fuel price hikes. Later, Min Ko Naing’s group issued announcement to stage a demonstration in front of Yangon City Hall on 23rd August. In order to ensure the national stability and security, those agitators including Min Ko Naing were detained by authorities for investigation.

Though encountering various difficulties, the National Convention has been completed successfully on 3rd September due to the support of the people as well as the unity and collective efforts of all delegates of the eight delegate groups.

As the National Convention has been completed successfully, the remaining steps of the Road Map are to be implemented with momentum. However, anti-government groups did not wish to see progress in the process of democratic reform and they accelerated their destructive acts to halt and jeopardize the implementing of the Road Map.

Hence, they made instigation among students, workers and the people. But, students, workers and the people did not get involved. Thus the antigovernment groups inside the country so as to enable them to survive. The armed insurgents groups seeking refuge at borders are not strong enough to fight the Government and thus they are giving priority to carry out sabotage acts and providing trainings to expatriates and UGs inside the country. We have obtained reliable informations on plots of insurgent terrorists and expatriate groups to launch sabotage acts while the National Convention was being held.

Similarly, NLD and illegal organization CRPP (Committee Representing People’s Parliament) wrote a letter to UN Secretary-General requesting him not to recognize the seven-step Road Map while the National Convention was being convened. The so-called ‘88 generation students group also issued announcements to support the request. It also made written demands for foreign nations to interfere in Myanmar’s affairs.

Apart from providing assistance to NLD and other groups inside and outside the country to launch antigovernment activities, USA and western countries attempted to take action against Myanmar at the UNSC. These incidents show the collective efforts to jeopardize the National Convention and halt the implementation of the seven-step Road Map.

At that juncture, the Government had to refix the prices of fuel inevitably. The Government has been subsidizing for fuel within the country since 1988. Now in 2007, the world’s oil prices have risen exorbitantly and the Government’s subsidies for fuel have increased greatly. Therefore, balancing the expenditure of State funds for subsidies and the consideration for relieving the people from the burden of oil price hikes, fuel prices were refixed. Yet, the revised fuel prices are still less than the prevailing international fuel prices as the Government continues to subsidize.

By taking the advantages of the rise in fuel prices, the antigovernment groups started to make instigation to create protests.

On 19th August, the so-called ‘88 generation students group led by Min Ko Naing staged a walk protest on the fuel price hikes. Later, Min Ko Naing’s group issued announcement to stage a demonstration in front of Yangon City Hall on 23rd August. In order to ensure the national stability and security, those agitators including Min Ko Naing were detained by authorities for investigation.

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Clarifications by Minister for Information
Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan...

(from page 4)

It has now been for about one month since the protests began on 28th August in Sittwe. Some members of the Sangha staged protests in Pakokku for bringing down commodity prices on 5 September. The protests spread out to some cities and towns including Yangon and Mandalay. It can be seen explicitly that the Government handled the situation with restraints. In Pakokku, the situation deteriorated to the extent that the members of the Sangha who were on strike threatened the Township Sangha Nayaka Chairman Sayadaw. Hence, the security members had to open fire to put the turmoil into the air. In Sittwe, as protesters threw stones at Sangha Nayaka Sayadaws and departmental officials, tear gas had to be used. In other places, security units did not deter or hinder the protesters.

The monks involved in these incidents are young members of the Sangha and novices. Only about 2 per cent of the total number of about 500,000 monks in the whole country took part in the protests. The majority of these 2% are actually bogus monks who got their heads shaved and wore monk’s robes temporarily as arranged by the so-called ‘88 generation student group. With the passage of time, the protests could harm the peace & security of the nation. Those young monks and terrorists involving in the protests threatened even revered monks. The most significant incident was that on 24th September, some 350 monks and NLD members shouted abusive words and attacked monastic buildings with purified water bottles at the monastery of Kyakhawtaw Sayadaw who is the Joint Sasana-paing (the most revered bishop) of Shwekyin Gana of the Sangha with membership strength of about 50,000 monks all over the country. The Kyakhawtaw Sayadaw’s monastery was located in Sago and the residence of about 1,200 residents. Being the Joint Sasana-paing, the Sayadaw is highly respected by the mass of the Sangha. Hence, the mass of the Sangha is very frustrated with that incident.

With the acceleration of momentum of protests, destructive elements infiltrated among the monks. In the beginning, the anti-government groups asked the monks to wander roads reciting parittas as praying for the people to be free from dangers. Some innocent monks took part in the protests and when authorities did not make any hindrance, antigovernment groups started to turn the religious activity into political movement. Beginning 23rd September, the protests were taken part by the party members and their friends holding flags and placards.

Since the situations deteriorated as in 1988, State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws tried to settle the issue with Dhamma. Practically, the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw, the highest level of Sangha organizations have issued directives for monks since 1984 to abide by Vinaya disciplines of Lord Buddha and not to get involved in political affairs. In addition to the previous directives, the Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee issued the Directive No 93 on 24 September for the monks to perform the religious duties only and not to get involved in violence and political affairs.

On 25 September, the monks neglecting the directives of the Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws continued to go on strike. Hence, authorities had to impose a curfew at some required places in Yangon and Mandalay cities under section 144 in the emergency law, prohibiting the assembly of 5 persons and more, haranguing, going out in queue and going out during 9 pm and 5 am. However on 26 September, the protesters breached the curfew; attacked the security units with stones, catapults and jinglees (darts); and attempted to grab arms. Thus the security units had to employ the minimal force to disperse the mob.

The Government handled the situations with patience, tolerance and broad-mindedness. As Myanmar people are hot blooded, they are very temperament to violence. While this being so, instigations are made improperly by saying that he would like to make some suggestions. The first suggestion was that although the National Convention has been completed, those who did not participate in the National Convention and the forthcoming Constitution. More rallies of such kind will continue to take place. It is 9:00 o'clock from 6 with bubbles and 54 villages of Taungtha as well as over 7,000 people from wards and villages of Myingyan started to hold mass rallies to denounce the instigations of some bogus monks and NLD members designed to destroy peace & stability.

Similarly on 28th September, about 10,000 people from Ngazaung town and villages in Myingyan district; over 7,000 people from Nantgyi town and villages; and over 9,000 people from Kyaukpadaung town and villages held mass rallies to denounce protests and violence and to support the National Convention and the forthcoming Constitution.

Likewise on 29th September, over 100,000 people held a mass rally in Myitkyina of Kachin State to denounce protests and violence and to support the National Convention and the forthcoming Constitution. More rallies of such kind will continue to take place. It is 9:30 o'clock from 6 with 9,000 people from Myingyan and 4,000 people from Saffai town.

Now, the National Convention has adopted Fundamental principles & detailed basic principles successfully. During your visit, Your Excellency have seen the dedication and attitude of all delegates at National Convention including those delegates from former armed groups who have returned to the legal fold. With the adoption of the Fundamental Principles & detailed basic principles, a Constitution will be drafted and approved and free & fair elections will be held.

At that time, we wish that all antigovernment groups form political parties and enter the elections. Our good hearted efforts deserve no such antagonism and violence. Today’s protests are not caused by the Government but by antigovernment groups against the Government. As it is very hot blooded to people from dangers, we have to investigate some persons. Such investigations are aimed at preventing bloodshed incidents; minimizing the intensity of unrest; and ensuring non-disintegration of the Union. Yet, I would like to reiterate that we wish those opposing groups to participate in the democratic reform.

Mr Gambari’s discussions and suggestions

After the clarifications made by the spokes authoritative team of the State Peace and Development Council, Mr Gambari expressed thanks for allowing his delegation to visit Myanmar within a short time and for warm hospitality as well as for rearranging the programme of his visit. The UN Secretary-General was pleased to learn that Mr Gambari was given the opportunities to meet with the Head of State as well as those whom he should meet. He expressed that he would like to take more time in Yangon in order to meet with NLD, diplomatic corps and officials of UN country team. As the whole world was watching with interest to his trip to Myanmar, he did not want to spend his time on the tour if possible. It was more important for him to assess the prevailing situation in Myanmar properly and accurately and to submit a thorough report to the UN Secretary-General and UN Security Council.

During his previous visit in last November while the National Convention was in progress, he got chances to meet with delegates attending the National Convention, he recalled. He was happy to learn and welcomed the successful completion of the National Convention as an accomplishment of a step of the process. He urged the Myanmar Government to continue for the successful completion of the process. He also expressed his belief that as Myanmar is a sovereign state, its future must be shaped by the Government and the people together. Nowadays in the world, no nation can stand isolated, he said. He continued by saying that he would like to make some suggestions. The first suggestion was that although the National Convention has been completed, those who did not participate in the National Convention should be given a chance to contribute their cooperation and ideas. He is of the view that the forthcoming Constitution is required to have participation and consent of all citizens as it will be enduring for 200 or 300 years to come. Since UN has ample experiences in drafting of constitutions, it could provide necessary assistance and he would also propose the matter to the Acting Prime Minister when he pay a courtesy call.

(See page 6)
Mr Gambari’s discussions and…  
(from page 5)

Secondly, he suggested that Myanmar Government should now start with taking concrete steps with regard to the democratic reform. As mentioned by the Minister, more ordinary citizens should participate more actively in the formation of State Governments and lower level bodies. In addition, the former armed groups which had returned to the legal fold should also be allowed to participate in the process since it is important to reflect the views and aspirations of these 17 armed groups. He also mentioned that he would submit these clarifications made by the Minister on the situation of Myanmar to the UN Secretary-General and the UN Security Council comprehensively.

The world’s opinion regarding the situation in Myanmar is also important. He further mentioned that media could be biased, but Myanmar should pay more attention to the views and opinions of ASEAN, neighboring counties, UNSC member states and her friendly nations. In the beginning of the demonstration, the world welcomed the government’s restraint and tolerance in handling the protests. Later, they had witnessed the injuries and deaths among the protesters when the government took control of the situation. Japan and Singapore, an ASEAN country had criticized Myanmar Government’s actions. On 20th September, the UNSC urged Myanmar Government to exercise restraint in solving the internal situation. The UN Secretary-General has dispatched him to Myanmar to assess the true situation. He stressed that the UNSG and himself are the only ones who would be able to defend Myanmar from critics. Thus, the Myanmar Government should avoid the use of force and find political solution, he suggested. His additional suggestions were lifting of the curfew as soon as possible; substituting the army troops on the streets with law enforcement agencies (police); allowing the ICRC officials to meet with detainees; inclusiveness of all groups in the process national reconciliation; and releasing of political detainees as early as possible.

He added that the UN Secretary-General has urged the Myanmar Government to find the solution for improvement of political and economic conditions in the country. Taking initiatives by the Government is better than reacting to the pressures, he noted. The Government’s initiative is therefore of great importance and he would also mention it when he meets with the Acting Prime Minister, he said.

Suggestions by Mr Gambari

Mr Gambari, then expressed his thanks for clarifications. He said he was pleased to know that the protesters detained were just for investigation and they would be released. He commented that the use of military troops in handling the protests is not in conformity with normal international practice. He pointed out that, internationally, law enforcement agencies (police) are usually used and suggested they be used in Myanmar too. He was glad to note that the Government also pay attention to this fact.

As the condition of the stability improves, curfew should be eased gradually, he stressed. He took note of the Government’s remark that antigovernment groups including the NLD which walked out of the National Convention, should conform to their policy first to cooperate with the Government. He wished all stakeholders to cooperate with one another for peaceful transition to democracy. In this regard, he hoped to see a dialogue. As Myanmar is a sovereign state, the democratization process should be initiated by the Government to ensure smoothness in the process. Mr Gambari re-expressed his gratitude for all arrangements accorded to him.

The meeting concluded at 09:30 hours.—MNA

People of Mandalay, Magway Divs denounce recent protests

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct—People who wish to see stability of the State, law enforcement and community peace of Thabekkyin, Madaya and Pyawbwe of Mandalay Division and Taungdwingyi of Magway Division viewed recent protests instigated by some monks and members of NLD as harming peace and stability and they organized mass rallies to denounce the protests on 2 and 3 October after seeking permission from authorities concerned in accord with law.

Over 7,500 people participated in the procession held at Aungchantha Village in Thabekkyin Township in Mandalay Division on 2 October. They shouted slogans calling for “Our Three Main National Causes” and adopting of the constitution holding placards that read “Don’t destroy stability, Never shall we be enslaved and We do not accept neo-colonialism”.

Similarly, about 12,500 people from Madaya of Mandalay Division walked in procession in the town, shouted slogans calling for “Our Three Main National Causes” and adopting of the constitution holding placards that read “Don’t destroy stability, Never shall we be enslaved and We do not accept neo-colonialism”.

 Altogether 5,500 people of Taungdwingyi Township on 2 October walked in procession in Taungdwingyi chanting slogans calling for “Our Three Main National Causes” and adopting of the constitution. They held placards that read “we oppose unrest and violence, beware of the rumours invented by BBC/VOA, RFA setting up hostilities, don’t destroy peace, don’t destroy stability”.

Likewise, about 19,000 people from Pyawbwe, Mandalay Division walked in procession on 3 October in the town shouting slogans calling for Our Three Main National Causes and adopting of the constitution.

They also held placards that read “don’t destroy peace, don’t destroy development and we do not accept colonialism”.

MNA
Ovada sought from Sayadaws of...

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members of the Sangha organized and deceived by a certain party and other troublesome so-called ‘88 generation students, and bogus monks specially kept for causing unrest in defiance of curfew ganged together to incite unrest.

Security forces responsible for enforcing peace and stability and the rule of law in Yangon Division systematically restored the situation in accord with the law. But the violent protesters ganged up on security personnel and even tried to grab their weapons.

All the people including members of the religious order must observe laws enacted or issued by the State.

According to objective information, witnesses and other evidences, security forces had to carry out search of Ngwe Kyayan Pariyatti Sarthintai, Dhamma Zeya, Shwetaungmaw and Satilaya monasteries in South Okkalapa Township, Dhammathukha monastery in Tanwip TownsHship, Moeaung monastery in Yankin Township, Meggin, Kyauksawt Arge, Pyinnya Tagon, Dhamma Waipula and Shwekyin Taikthit monasteries in Thingangyun Township, Mingalayama and Pyinnya Yamika monasteries in Botataung Township, Sasana Theikpan and Sasana Gonyi monasteries in Bahan Township, Takkathila Zeyathikdi Pahtan monastery in Dagon (East) Township, Thrizeya and Pandissayama monasteries in North Okkalapa Township, totalling 18 monasteries where U Gambhara, U Vicitta, U Obhasa, U Pakata, U Kovid, U Ottara, U Khanit, U Kusala, U Aggavamsa, U Nemind, U Nanataya, U Ottama, U Sinninda, U Janinda, U Kusala, Shin Gandera, U Vunmasara, U Tejanyia, U Kontinna, U Jatiya, U Candavara, U Kevala, U Somana, U Acita, U Pannajota, U Kosalla, U Pannayamsa, U Nanobhassa and U Catila, who led, generated, participated and supported the disturbances were residing, due to avoidable circumstances.

In the raid, the members could not differentiate between monks and novices and bogus ones. So, they took 513 monks, one novice, 167 men and 30 women for questioning.

It is regrettable that the operation revealed that in some monasteries, women sleep in the buildings where monks reside, and the members found uncensored pornographic VCDs, eight uncensored pornographic DCDS, three pornographic books, two pornographic wall sheets, four pornographic photos, a Kama Siddhi treatise, a photo of a woman, 10 condoms, one statuette tonic medicine sachet, dildo (with belt), one status of a woman and a man hugging each other, 13 women’s wear longyis (sarongs), eight panties, one purse, a love letter, perfume/glycerin bottles, men’s wear longyis, T-shirts, Jeans, two cordless phones, three loan agreements, one men’s wear Rolex wrist watch, 10 alcohol bottles, one 9mm pistol round of ammunition, 18 different kinds of swords, three wooden nanchakus, one axe, six wooden rods, one iron rod, 13 catapulats, documents about lists of bets, 30 booklets featuring football match fixtures and documents about football match bets, documents, ledgers and receipts about two-digit and three-digit illegal lotteries, three sets of playing cards, one anti-government poem book titled Thway Mawgun, one paper sheet featuring anti-government letter titled Nyinyut Kya Yin, three paper sheets featuring facts about Myanmar Young Monks Union, one diary dated on 18.9.2007 featuring expressions that Myanmar Young Monks Union made demands to the government, documents about news records and speeches of NLD, one badge of fighting peacock, “88” generation student group’s invitation cards for Wasso robes donation, one Nazi headband, and two US headbands.

After investigating those who were taken from the monasteries, up to 5 October, 404 monks, one novice, 158 men and 30 women who were found innocent had been released. Now, 109 monks and nine men are under questioning.

Foreign media and anti-government groups made fabrications that in the incidents, there were casualties of some monks. In reality, only a dead body with a tattoo depicting party political affairs and a yellow robe on his neck was found to be floating in the Pazundaung creek. He was only a bogus monk wearing a yellow robe.

It was found that the internal and external elements did not even spare the monks practising Pariyat and Patipat in their monasteries and persuaded them to take to the streets. Their acts were in total disregard of the Sasana and the Buddha’s teachings, and they attempted to tarnish the image of Buddha’s Sasana and sow discord between the government and the people. As a result, the Sasana as well as the country was affected. So it proved that the destructionists were sticking to the means of confrontation and utter devastation.

As U Gambhara, U Vicitta, U Obhasa and U Padaka, who led the instigation to cause disturbances, escaped, the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha are requested to expose bogus monks. Although authorities and security members pay respects to the real monks, they had to take action against those bogus monks trying to tarnish the image of the Sasana in order to ensure community peace and tranquillity, the rule of law and perpetuity of the Sasana. Therefore, the Sayadaws and members of the Sangha who are safeguarding the Sasana are requested to give Ovada.

Later, Chairman of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Shwekyin) Sayadaw of Sasana Alinyaung Monastery in Dawbon Township Bhaddanta Jouka, Chairman of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Muladwara) Sayadaw of Gandayon Monastery Bhaddanta Jayasena, Chairman of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Weiluwun) Sayadaw of Bilin Monastery in Sangyoung Township Bhaddanta Pannawbhasa and Chairman of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Thudama) Sayadaw of Legaing Monastery in Dalla Township Bhaddanta Ardissavanna gave the Ovada and the ceremony came to a close.

Sayadaws of all Ganas of the committee, heads of district GADs, Head of Yangon Division Religious Affairs Department U Soe Naing and district heads and Director of Yangon Division Immigration and National Registration Department U Hla Daung and district heads were present. — MNA

Director of Yangon Division General Administration Department U Hla Soe supplicates matters related to religious affairs to Sayadaws of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (All Ganas). — MNA
Ceremony to support National Convention and constitution held in Taunggyi, Shan State (South)

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct — A ceremony to support the National Convention and the constitution, organized by townelders of Shan State (South) in accord with the law, was held at the sports ground in Taunggyi this morning.

Townelders of Taunggyi, Loilem, Langkho districts, the national races from 21 townships, members of social organizations, entrepreneurs, peasants and workers, delegates from the peace groups and others attended the ceremony.

Starting from 6 am, Taunggyi District column No 1 led by U Tin Maung Aye, Taunggyi District column No 2 led by U Khin Maung Oo, Loilem District column No 1 led by U Than Tun, Loilem District column No 2 led by U Tin Shwe and Langkho District column led by U Tun Hsan marched towards the sports ground.

Townelder U Sai Tun Myat presided over the ceremony and members of panel of the chairmen were Lt-Col Naing Win (Retd) of Shan State War Veterans Organization, Daw Khin May Thaung of Shan State WAO, Secretary U Nyan Lin of Shan State USDA, Pao National U Khun Khin Kyaw Nyo, Daw Mya Mya Kyi of Shan State MCWSC and U Ba Than.

Daw Khin Htwe Aung, executive of Taunggyi District USDA acted as master of ceremonies and Daw Hla Hla Tun of Taunggyi Township USDA as co-MC. Next, the attendees saluted the State Flag.

Afterwards, Chairman U Sai Tun Myat delivered an opening address. He said: Shan, PaO, Bamar, Danu, Intha, Palaung, Kayan, Taungyoe and Lahu nationals have lived in amity in Shan State (South).

Similarly, all national races have lived in unity in the country since time immemorial.

The constitution is very important for perpetuation and development of the Union. It is impossible to write a constitution by a person or a group, to duplicate a constitution of other country or to write a constitution with the help of other countries.

Therefore, the government issued the order 13/92 on 2 October, 1992, and organized the committee for holding the coordination meeting to convene the National Convention.

The National Convention was held on 23 June, 1997, and members of the committees for holding the different NC and delegates from political parties participated in the NC. Fifteen delegates from the National League for Democracy (NLD), six from the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, three from the National Unity Party, one from the Union Pa-O National Organization, one from the Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization, one from the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party and one from the Lahu National Development Party attended the National Convention. Members of the leading committees for convening the NC, delegates from political parties and independent representatives-elect started to discuss matters related to the constitution and the government had to issue necessary orders.

Eighty-six delegates from NLD walked out the NC in November, 1995. The NLD party had a chance to discuss with delegates from other political parties and national races, but it turned a blind eye to interests of the State under the directives of foreign masters.

I want to urge those masters within and without to consider that the government should negotiate with the party that walked out of the NC.

The National Convention, the first step of the seven-point Road Map, was successfully completed on 3 September 2007. The detailed basic principles for writing the new constitution were laid down by the convention. According to the detailed basic principles, the new upcoming constitution guarantee non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the unity of all national races,
Ceremony to support National Convention…

(from page 8)

sovereignty of the State, emergence of the democratic system and role of the Tatmadaw in the political leadership.

The 1947 constitution was written hastily by 71 members and it allowed to designate four states — Kachin, Kayah, Kayinni and Shan. The 1974 constitution was drawn by 97 members and allowed to designate three more states — Chin, Mon and Rakhine states.

The constitutions were written by the same commission. Today’s National Convention was participated by national races and delegates from the people to draw the upcoming constitution.

The number of delegates from national races and people from all strata attended the NC is more than those of the conventions in the past.

The basic principles the National Convention has adopted include the every citizen. The constitution to be drawn based on such principles aims to serve the long-term interest of the people. Therefore, all the people of Shan State (South) support the NC and the forthcoming constitution. The government has implemented the seven-step road map and the first step, the National Convention, has been successfully completed. At such a time, the people are to guard against the acts of internal and external destructive elements and BBC, VOA, RFA and DVB attempting to instigate unrest in the nation. As the monks and the people of Shan State have no trust in such destructive elements, they are still living and working in peace in their own region without staging any protest. So, the UN as well as the international community is urged to assess the prevailing situations of the nation.

In conclusion, the government and the people are marching towards a modern developed nation and the people of Shan State (South) support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution and they are to prevent any act of the destructive elements with Union Spirit.

Executive of Shan State USDA U Khun Thura Aung said that some big power nations are committing acts detrimental to the interests of the State and its people on the pretext of democracy and human rights.

Shan State (South) lagged behind in development in transport, education, health, economic and social sectors owing to protracted internal strife. At present, the national races in the state have witnessed and enjoyed the fruits of development in transport, education and industrial sectors.

The internal and external destructive elements in collusion with some foreign radio stations are committing destructive acts and airing fabricated news to instigate unrest. There were no demonstrations in all townships in Shan State (South). If the demonstrations occur in the state, we will get rid of such activities.

We denounce the acts of some foreign radio stations such as BBC, VOA, RFA and DVB that are airing canard to undermine the seven-step Road Map.

We believe that we will achieve our national goal, a peaceful modern developed democratic state. We endorse the principles and detailed basic principles that are beneficial to the interests of the State and the people.

The forthcoming constitution includes deserved rights, justice, (See page 10)
Ceremony to support National Convention... 

(from page 9) 

liberty and equality for the entire people in Myanmar. Therefore, we warmly welcome the new Constitution. And we condemn the acts of some foreign radio stations such as BBC, VOA, RFA and DVB unanimously endorse the National Convention and the Constitution. 

Afterwards, Shan National Daw Nan Bo Kham seconded the motion calling for the support of the National Convention and the Constitution. 

According to the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down at the National Convention, the new upcoming constitution has given rights to and has satisfied desires of all national races. Therefore, it is sure that the constitution will guarantee the national unity, flourishing the Union Spirit as well as the peaceful, modern and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. 

Internal and external destructive elements and foreign media broadcasts fabricated news and have peace and did not participate in protests. Any Buddhist monks and residents in Taunggyi, Loein, Langkho districts in Shan State (South) did not take part in the protests and it had reflected the desires of all the people who favour peace and oppose acts of violence. 

Hence, all national races who favour peace and stability, joining hands with the government, are committed to guarding against the danger to the disintegration of the Union, disintegration of the unity of all national races. Therefore, we don't need to fight for rights and we, the mass of women, are striving for the emergence of a new nation. 

The mass of women will put all their energies into building a democratic nation and denounce destructive acts. We want to warn destructive elements to stop their acts of violence. 

As the new upcoming constitution guarantees equal rights for all national races, we second the motion tabled by U Khun Thura Aung. 

In support of the National Convention and the constitution, Capt Aye Min Soe (Retd) of Shan State War Veterans Organization said it is obvious that the objectives of the National Convention guaranteed the perpetuation of the nation and the national interest. A glance at the history will reveal that the nation has been in existence as a sovereign one under its own monarch. Owing to the aggressive wars the nation lost her independence. The Tatmadaw together with the people drove out the colonialist fascists to regain the independence. Since then, the Tatmadaw has the duty to protect and safeguard non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty; the Tatmadaw must take the leading role in defending the nation against internal and external dangers; and the Tatmadaw is a main armed force in defending the nation.

It is proper and appropriate that the delegates to the National Convention guaranteed (from page 11) 

Local national races participate in mass rally in Taunggyi. MNA

Chairman U Sai Tun Myat. MNA

U Khun Thura Aung. MNA

Chairman U Sai Tun Myat. MNA

U Khun Thura Aung. MNA

Chairman U Sai Tun Myat. MNA

U Khun Thura Aung. MNA

Chairman U Sai Tun Myat. MNA

U Khun Thura Aung. MNA

Chairman U Sai Tun Myat. MNA

U Khun Thura Aung. MNA

Chairman U Sai Tun Myat. MNA

U Khun Thura Aung. MNA
Ceremony to support National Convention...

(from page 10)

interests. This is in line with the people’s desires.

The internal and external destructive elements in collusion with BBC, VOA, RFA and DWB aired fabricated news with the intention of misunderstanding the people and driving a wedge between the people and the government. They broadcast only the wishes of the minority of the people and turned a blind eye to the genuine desires of the majority of the people in the states and divisions. So it opposed to the National Convention. However, the people are to ward off the destructive elements while maintaining the already-achieved peace, development and national solidarity. This being the case, he said he hailed the motion tabled by U Khun Thura Aung.

Next, Pa-O national member of Shan State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Dr Daw Khin Than Nwe seconded the motion saying that delegates to the National Convention made thorough discussions about detailed basic principles. The new State Constitution will surely help the people enjoy their full rights that have never been enjoyed before. In addition, according to the principles, the State will help the national people develop their literature, art and cultures, ensure national consolidation and amity and raise the socio-economy of the people. That is why the entire people fully support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution.

In conclusion, I denounce those who try to disrupt the national solidarity and the Union and lose the sovereignty and those who incite unrest through media. Here, I would like to second the motion calling for denouncing BBC, VOA, RFA and DWB who are instigating destructionists within and without the country.

U Khun Chit Maung, ex-chairman of Shan State Nationalities People’s Liberation Organization, which unconditionally exchanged arms for peace, in support of the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution said as they realized the goodwill attitude of State Peace and Development Council, they returned to the legal fold in 1994 and started cooperating with the government in serving the interest of the people.

Now they have become more confident of the government as the basic principles laid down by the National Convention will surely help the people enjoy their rights regardless of religion and race.

While those who picked up armed struggle line in the past are working side by side with the government for national development, anti-government groups in collusion with internal and external destructive elements are inciting civil disturbances with the intention of driving the nation to the brink of collapse. Their acts are totally unreasonable and unacceptable. He said they will not allow a situation like that in 1988. Therefore, all the people are to prevent the danger of internal and external destructive elements.

Local national races participate in mass rally in Taunggyi.— MNA

is obvious that the intention of BBC, VOA, RFA and DWB is wicked and sinister.

In conclusion, he said that some big nations are practising political, economic and military hegemony. Assessing such dangers, the delegates to the National Convention laid down fundamental principles and detailed basic principles for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation capable of serving the long-term national interests. Therefore, he added that he hailed the motion tabled by U Khun Thura Aung and condemned the perpetration of BBC, VOA, RFA and DWB.

U Sai Khwum Meim of MTA, that had unconditionally surrendered arms to the government, continued to support the National Convention and the constitution, saying that the National Convention representing the entire national people was successfully held. The fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention will be able to serve national interests. Therefore, he heartily welcomed such principles.

The State constitution will be drawn based on the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles. The new State constitution will be approved by the referendum. And the new cabinet will be formed after the election. Therefore, he supported such principles.

At a time when there emerged good results, there have been dangers of destructive elements on the other hand. A group of internal and external elements in collusion with certain big nations are to draft an enduring constitution. She continued to say that Maternal and Child Welfare Association has laid down 12 future work programmes and is implementing tasks in education, health, economic and social sectors. In cooperation with health staff, health care services are provided to every people from embryo to aging people. Moreover, to disseminate knowledge, 50 education centres and 3287 libraries were opened in Shan State (South).

For income generation, tailoring course and vocational courses were opened. Members of MCWA also participate in growing physic nut plants to save fuel. Health care services were provided free of charge to needy persons and fly-proof latrines were built. These are the efforts made by NGOs and the forthcoming constitution encourage these efforts and thus we support and welcome the National Convention and the constitution.

As peace prevails across Shan State South villages which lagged behind in development now become model villages. Therefore we are very afraid of losing the prevailing peace.

Recently, destructionists inside and outside the country instigated unrest in some cities to spoil the constitution and harm the seven-step Road Map. They made plan to coincide with the holding of the United Nations General Assembly meeting in an attempt to make Myanmar get into hot under.

Under the pretext of the Sasana and through monks they incited unrest. We

Local national races participate in mass rally in Taunggyi.— MNA
Singapore, Britain sign unrestricted open skies agreement

SINGAPORE, 4 Oct—Singapore and Britain have concluded a liberal open skies agreement, removing all restrictions on air services operated by carriers of both countries, announced the Ministry of Transport on Wednesday.

With this agreement, Singapore Airlines (SIA) will now be able to operate as many services as the Singapore-UK market could support, said the ministry.

The SIA’s aircraft can also pick up passengers from London’s Heathrow Airport and fly them onwards to other cities, including those in the United States.

Similarly, UK carriers will be able to operate any number of services beyond Singapore to any other city in the world.

These rights, which will be effective from end-March 2008, come nearly two decades after Singapore first made its request to the UK, said the statement.

Raymond Lim, Minister for Transport said in the statement that “this is indeed a trailblazing agreement concluded between two forward-looking countries that share a common objective of promoting free competition in the aviation sector.”

The ministry describe it as ground-breaking agreement, saying it has more liberal than conventional open skies agreements, as it provides for unlimited “hubbing” and “cabotage” rights for carriers of both countries.—MNA/Xinhua

INB says Brazil to achieve uranium self-sufficiency in 2014

RIO DE JANEIRO, 4 Oct—Brazil will be able to fulfill its domestic demand for uranium by 2014, the chief of Nuclear Industries of Brazil (INB) announced on Tuesday.

INB President Alfredo Tranjan said that an enrichment plant is currently undergoing tests. Brazil is expected to be enriching in 2012 the equivalent of 60 per cent of the uranium needed by the country’s two nuclear power plants Angra I and II, located in Rio de Janeiro, according to the official. He also said that the country’s uranium production will quadruple in the next five years, which means it will rise from the current 400 tons per year to an annual 1,600 tons in 2012.

To that end, INB will start exploring a mine in Ceara State, and expand operations at another in the Bahia State, both in northeastern Brazil, the official said.

The company, which is subordinated to the Ministry of Science and Technology, will adopt a new exploration technique, aimed at increasing efficiency in the ore extraction process by 20 per cent, he added.

“If the country grows by 4.1 per cent per year, we will have four more plants by 2030 and, if it grows 5.1 per cent per year, we will have eight other plants. Then, INB needs to be prepared,” said Tranjan, referring to GDP rise prospects supplied by the government. —MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia ready to use its own anti-bird flu vaccines

JAKARTA, 5 Oct—Indonesia, the hardest-hit by bird flu, has been ready to use its own anti-bird flu vaccines on human, after the country completed its clinical test, Health Minister Siti Fadilah Supari said here on Wednesday.

Minister Fadilah ensured that a priority would be given to the area which had suffered human clusters on avian influenza.

But, she said that a calculation was still needed to determine in detail how to use the more than two million doses vaccines that it has produced in cooperation with the US-based drug maker Baxter.

The minister said that the clinical test of the vaccines was already complete in September. “The vaccines are valid, (they) can be used now,” she told Xinhua at the State Palace here.

Some parameters and rules for the application of the vaccines would be made soon, said Fadilah. “We still need some approaches. We need to make calculation again,” she said.

The health authorities would observe and watch closely which area was proper to be prioritized for using the vaccines, said Fadilah.

She said Karo regency in North Sumatra Province would have the priority because it suffered bird flu cluster in April last year, and eight people were killed. —MNA/Xinhua

Study shows pollution killing 25,000 Canadians a year

OTTAWA, 4 Oct—Pollution is killing 25,000 Canadians a year and costing about nine billion Canadian dollars (nine billion US dollars), according to a study published on Tuesday.

In addition to the deaths, the pollution causes 24,000 new cases of cancer and 2,500 low birthweight babies in Canada each year, said the study published in the online journal Environmental Research.

He said Canada’s environmental record ranks around 28th in the 30-country Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development. He co-authored the paper, Dr Stephen Genuis of the University of Alberta, used recent public health data to calculate Canada’s environmental burden of disease, the morbidity and mortality caused by exposure to environmental hazards. —MNA/Xinhua

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Chinese girl swims with limbs bound, eye on “Guinness”

CHANGSHA, 5 Oct — A 10-year-old girl in central China’s Hunan Province swam for three hours in a tributary of the Yangtze River on Tuesday with hands and feet bound to test her endurance, hoping she would be inscribed into the Guinness Book of World Records someday.

Huang Li, a fourth-grader from Sazhixi county in the city of Zhangjiajie, managed to swim along in the Xiangjiang River with her bound feet as her parents kept an eye on her. She had covered three kilometres before her mother told her to stop and fed her some cake.

“I know she can still continue, but I fear she might be in danger,” said Huang’s mother Song Jinfang. “It’s getting cold and she had only a bowl of noodles for lunch before she started swimming at 12:45 p.m.”

For financial reasons, the family had not bought any insurance to protect the girl from potential harms during the swimming.

“Next time, she will swim farther and I’ll follow her in a boat to ensure safety,” said the father.

The family did not say whose idea it was to bind the girl’s limbs, but the father Huang Daosheng, a middle school teacher, insisted this would help improve the girl’s swimming skills and eventually help fulfil her dream to swim across the English Channel.

MNA/Xinhua

Heart attacks can occur in teenagers

NEW YORK, 4 Oct — Although quite rare, heart attacks can occur in adolescents without heart defects; and a case series reported by two cardiologists from The Heart Centre at Akron Children’s Hospital, Ohio, serves as a reminder this.

Reporting in the current issue of Pediatrics, Drs John R. Lane and Giora Ben-Shachar describe nine healthy adolescents (eight boys and one girl), ages 12 to 20 years, who developed severe chest pains and met the criteria for a diagnosis of heart attack.

Eight of the patients had abnormal EKGs, all of them had abnormal cardiac enzyme levels, and three had abnormalities revealed by echocardiogram. Heart rhythm abnormalities were seen in four patients.

Although several other types of irregularities were detected, none of the patients has abnormal anatomy.

Tests for drug abuse, cholesterol levels, and blood coagulation rate were all negative, the authors report.

Heart attacks in teens are “obviously rare but not an impossible diagnosis,” Lane told Reuters Health.

When an adolescent develops chest pain typical of a heart attack, it should not be dismissed lightly.

MNA/Reuters

Over 20 teams get permit in Nepal to climb 16 peaks

KATHMANDU, 4 Oct — More than 20 expedition teams from various countries of the world have been permitted to attempt 16 peaks for the current autumn season, local newspaper The Rising Nepal reported Tuesday.

As of Monday, an Army expedition from Thailand has received permit to climb Mt Everest, according to the Mountaineering Division under the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation.

Four teams have received to scale Mt Dhauagiri. Similarly, two teams have got permission to attempt Mt Manaslu and Langtang Ri each.

MNA/Xinhua

Permit has been issued to one team each to climb another 12 peaks.

Khadananda Dhukal, the under secretary of the ministry and chief at the Mountaineering Division, hoped that some more expedition teams could attempt different peaks this season.

Two charged with stealing from New York Mayor

NEW YORK, 4 Oct — In apparently unrelated cases, two New Jersey men have been charged with stealing from the bank accounts of billionnaire New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, prosecutors said on Tuesday.

Odalis Bostic, 23, was charged with depositing two fraudulent checks totalling 420,000 US dollars, drawn in the name of Bloomberg’s financial manager, Geller & Co, with the mayor’s personal account information appearing on both checks.

Separately, investigators said a probe turned up an apparently unrelated fraud.

In May, Charles Nelson, 31, transferred 10,000 US dollars from Bloomberg’s account to an account he had set up, prosecutors said.

The Manhattan District Attorney’s office has not uncovered any evidence that either man was aware of the other, spokeswoman Barbara Thompson said.

Bostic was arrested in New Jersey in August and was arraigned in New York State Supreme Court on Tuesday. He is charged with attempted grand larceny.

Nelson has been charged with grand larceny and identity theft.

Calls to Geller & Co were not immediately returned.

If convicted, both men face up to seven years in prison.

— MNA/Reuters

Panama Canal traffic at record high

PANAMA CITY, 4 Oct — The Panama Canal reported its busiest-ever year in the last 12 months, according to figures released on Tuesday by the body that manages the inter-oceanic waterway.

Posting figures for its fiscal year, which ended on 30 September, the Panama Canal Authority said transits through the 50-mile (80-kilometre) waterway were up 3.7 per cent to a record 14,721 from 14,194 in the yearago period.

It also said that cargo volumes surpassed the symbolic barrier of 300 million tons in the last 12 months, thanks in part to a 10-per-cent jump in container ship transits and a rise in the number of large vessels traversing the canal.

Work began last month on ambitious project to double the canal’s capacity so that even bigger ships can pass through.

The 5.25-billion-US-dollar project is expected to be completed by 2014.

— MNA/Reuters

Forest fires rage in Lebanon

DEIR AL-QAMAR (Lebanon), 4 Oct — Forest fires blazed in several areas of Lebanon on Tuesday, including around the ancient town of Deir al-Qamar, a world heritage site.

“Most of Deir al-Qamar is engulfed in thick, black smoke. There’s not one wooded area left. Some villages are a blaze, cars are burnt, the phone and electricity lines are burnt,” resident Josephal-

MNA/Reuters

It told Reuters by telephone.

About 85 fires started on Tuesday and 118 on Monday, the head of the Lebanese Civil Defence, Brigadier General Darweesh Hobeika, told Reuters.

A civil defence source estimated the fires had destroyed around 100 hectares of woodland.

“It’s a 95 per cent possibility that the fires were caused intentionally by people trying to obtain charcoal as a cheaper substitute for fuel,” Hobeika said. The source said 60-70 per cent of the fires had been contained but some still raged in Rashaya in the eastern Bekaa Valley and Barouk in the southeastern Shouf region.

— MNA/Reuters

China’s Wang Yue competes during Rythmic Gymnastic Preliminary at 12th Special Olympic World Summer Games held in Shanghai on 3 Oct.

INTERNET
**SPORTS**

**Houston’s Clark gets nine-game ban for horror kick**

**NEW YORK, 5 Oct —** Houston Dynamo and United States midfielder Ricardo Clark has been banned for nine games after a violent kick on an opponent who was lying on the ground.

Major League Soccer Commissioner Don Garber also fined Clark 10,000 US dollars for the kick on Carlos Ruiz of FC Dallas in the 89th minute of Sunday’s game.

“In taking this action, Major League Soccer is sending a signal that it will not accept reckless and dangerous behaviour on its fields,” Garber said in a statement.

“If there is a repeat of this kind of behaviour by any MLS player, even firmer sanctions can be expected in the future.”

Ruiz was lying on the ground after a scramble in the penalty area when Clark unleashed a powerful kick at his body.

Clark, who has 10 caps for the United States, will serve the nine-game suspension throughout the remainder of the 2007 regular season, MLS Cup playoffs and into the 2008 season.

**Murray reaches Metz Open quarterfinals**

**METZ (France), 5 Oct —** Briton Andy Murray eased into the Metz Open quarterfinals with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Frenchman Michael Llodra on Thursday.

The third-seeded Scot needed only one hour and 11 minutes to see off the crowd favourite and next plays either German Philipp Kohlschreiber or France’s Jo Wilfried Tsonga.

Murray, whose season has been hampered by a wrist injury, broke in the ninth game of the first set after the umpire ruled a point in favour and never looked back.

“When we were at 4-4, 4-0, he saved two break points with good serves,” Murray told a news conference.

“On the third, my forehand passing shot is called out but the umpire changes the decision in my favour and I think I was right.

“Then, I had the feeling that Llodra was not into the match any more,” added the world number 18.

Second seed Guillermo Canas of Ar-

gentina also qualified with a 7-6, 7-6 win over Austrian Juergen Melzer after two hours and 18 minutes.

Austria’s Stefan Koubek was disqualified for comments he made to the tour-

nament supervisor during his match with Sebastien Grosjean of France.

Koubek was leading the second-round encounter 5-7, 7-6, 4-2 when supervi-

sor Thomas Karlborg ordered the umpire to dis-

qualify him.

“On the first point of the seventh game, on Grosjean’s serve, a Koubek forehand close to the baseline gave a 0-15 advantage to Koubek,” Karlborg told a news con-

ference.

**Beckham hopeful of LA Galaxy return next week**

**LOS ANGELES, 5 Oct —** David Beckham is expected to return to action for the Los Angeles Galaxy next weekend after deciding to layoff through injury, the club said on Thursday.

LA Galaxy president Alexi Lalas said the English international had started light training this week after spraining a ligament in his right knee in late August.

“We are hopeful he will play a part in the next two home games — not this weekend but the following weekend,” Lalas said at a soccer symposium in Los Angeles.

“But if for one instant, we feel he is physically or mentally not 100 per cent ready, we will not put him on the field for us nor will he play for England,” Lalas added.

Midfielder Beckham joined the LA Galaxy in July, mid-way through the Major League Soccer (MLS) season on a five-year contract which could potentially earn him a reported 250 million US dollars, mainly from endorsements.

But because of a nagging ankle injury, he played only 310 minutes in six games for Galaxy before spraining his knee on August 29.

**Henin reaches with smart win over Safina in Stuttgart tennis**

**STUTTGART (Germany), 5 Oct —** World number one Justine Henin made a problem-free re-

turn to the court on Thursdays,

beating Dinara Safina 6-4, 6-1 in her first match since winning the US Open.

Henin took a break of nearly a month after see-

ning off Svetlana Kuznetsova in New York for her seventh career grand slam title.

On Thursday it looked like she had never been as far as she saw off the Russian Safina with ease to reach the quarterfinals of the Stuttgart Grand Prix.

Fifth seed Ana Ivanovic failed to join her-

thought, bundled out 6-2, 1-6, 6-3 by Ukrainian qualifier Kateryna Bondarenko in the day's big upset.

Jelena Jankovic was in danger of suffering the same fate as her fellow

Serb but the third seed fought her way out of trou-

ble against Shahar Peer of Israel, coming through 6-4, 6-1.

Henin took just a little time to warm up, eventu-

ally making the decisive break in game seven of the first set.

The Belgian broke again at the start of the second set and completed a comfortable win in 74 minutes.

“I had a nice rest after the US Open and this was a very good first match back for me,” Henin said on court.

Henin goes on to face the Russian Elena Dementieva, who beat Slovak eighth seed Daniela Hantuchova 6-4, 6-1.

The performance of the day came from Bondarenko, who de-

scribed victory over Ivanovic as the best of her career.

Ivanovic lost her first service game and, al-

thought she broke back, never looked comfortable against Bondarenko’s heavy topspin.

The Ukrainian reeled off four games from 2-2 to clinch the first set before Ivanovic upped her game in the second.

The deciding set stayed with serve until game eight when Ivanovic smashed an attempted forehand winner into the net.

Bondarenko made two bad mistakes on her first couple of match points but an unforced error from the Serb saw her home.

“I wasn’t surprised,” said Bondarenko, who next faces Frenchwoman Tatiana Golovin. “At the beginning I was nervous but I tried to focus and it went my way.”

Holder Nadia Petrova beat Dutch qualifier Michaela Krajicek 6-1, 6-3 to book a quarterfinal against Jankovic.—**MNA/Reuters**

**Ajax dumped out of UEFA Cup by Zagreb, Bayern through**

**LONDON, 5 Oct —** Former European champi-

ons Ajax Amsterdam made a shock exit from the UEFA Cup on Thursday after a 3-2 home defeat by Dinamo Zagreb gave the Croats a 3-3 draw on aggregate and victory on the away goals rule.

The upset dominated a night on which fellow fa-

vourites Bayern Munich reached the group stage with a 2-0 win at Belinegen, Spain’s Atletico Madrid and Villarreal enjoyed crushing wins and Premier League hopefuls Tottenham Hotspur, Everton and Bolton Wanderers all went through.

Ajax’s elimination was all the more of a surprise as they had been leading 1-0 after the away leg two weeks ago.

They fell behind on the night to a Luka Modric penalty in the first half which eventually sent the tie into extra time. Mario Mandzukic struck twice to give Dinamo a decisive 3-0 lead before Klaas Jan Huntelaar scored twice for Ajax. Defeat for Ajax manager Henk ten Cate came on the day he was linked by British newspapers with a move to the coaching staff of Chelsea.

Bayern Munich again had Luca Toni to thank for their victory over Belinegen. The Italian striker, who had scored the only goal of the first leg, also opened the scoring in Portugal before Hamit Altintop added 1-2. the second.

Atletico Madrid completed a 9-0 drubbing of Turkey’s Erciyesspor, knocking in another five on Thursday, while Villarreal rounded off a 6-1 win over BATE of Belarus.

Second-half goals by James McFadden and Vic-

tor Anichebe earned Everton a 3-2 comeback win at Metalist Kharkiv and a 4-3 win on aggregate, while Bolton Wanderers beat Rabatnicki 1-0 with a Nicolas Anelka winner after finishing 1-1 in Macedonia.

Blackburn Rovers went out 3-2 on aggregate to Larissa of Greece despite winning 2-1 on the night, while Tottenham Hotspur settled for a 1-1 draw at Anorthosis Famagusta after their 6-1 demolition of the Cypriot team at White Hart Lane.—**MNA/Reuters**

**Hungarian Kristizn Kuleszar (R) confronts French Eric Boise over the men’s individual epee final at the Fencing World Championship 2007 in St Petersburg, second largest city of Russia on 3 Oct, 2007. — INTERNET**

**Harbin reaches with smart win over Safina in Stuttgart tennis**

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British postal workers begin 48-hour strike

London, 5 October—Thousands of British postal workers began a 48-hour strike on Thursday in a row over pay and jobs, causing severe disruption to the service, Royal Mail said.

“Customers should expect severe disruption to postal services during the strikes and for a significant period afterwards,” the Royal Mail said.

A spokesman said it would try to keep some postal services running.

“The union leadership are completely out of touch with UK industry and the reality of how competitive markets work,” Royal Mail said in a statement.

Union leaders called on the government to get involved to try to end the dispute.

New Rainfalls Record

(Issued at 12:30 hour MST on 5-10-2007)

The amounts of rainfall recorded at (09:30 hour MST today, at the following stations observed the (24)hours new maximum rainfall records for the month of October.

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Weather outlook for second weekend of October

Friday, 5 October, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hour MST:

Friday, 5 October, 2007, some rain showers will be isolated in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing Division, rain or thundershowers will be isolated in lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan and Kayin States, fairly widespread in Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy falls in Mon and Kayin States, Bago and Ayeyarwady Divisions.

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.23) inch, Kyaukkyi (10.71) inch, Kaykareik (9.96) inch, Theinzayat (8.66) inch, Madayin (18.15) inches, Mawlamyine (5.89) inches, Nyaunggbin (5.00) inches, Bago (4.30) inches, Thaton (4.26) inches and Hpa-an (3.97) inches.

Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from West at (16:30) hours MST on 6-10-2007.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hour MST today, yesterday low pressure area over West Central Bay still persists. Monsoon wind is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy to cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Special feature: According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, yesterday land depression is centered at about (270) miles North of Bangkok, Thailand. It is forecast to move westward.

Forecast valid until evening of 6-10-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing Division, scattered in lower Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan State and Mawgyaw Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Mon, Kayin and Kayit States, Ayeyawady, Bago and Yangon Divisions.

Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough seas are likely at time off and along Myanma coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) or (45) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon in the Andaman Sea and South Bay.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 6-10-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 6-10-2007: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-10-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Weather outlook for second weekend of October 2007: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Yangon Division, isolated in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.
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

Ovada sought from Sayadaws of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept — A ceremony to seek ovada from Sayadaws of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (All Ganas) was held at Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka Committee (Sudhamma) in Bahan Township, Yangon, this afternoon.

Director of Yangon Division Administration Department U Hla Soe supplicated on religious matters saying violent disturbances occurred in some townships of Yangon Division due to some members of the Sangha and laypersons.

During the disturbances, monks of the monasteries who did not take part in the disturbances faced threats and insulting group throwing bottled water at their monasteries. Troublemakers committed assaults even on eminent monks.

The Minister for Religious Affairs presented the true events to State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee on 24 September 2007. The committee issued Directive No 93 the same day prohibiting all acts that violate Vinaya (discipline).

Yangon Division GAD imposed section 144 (curfew) in townships it deemed necessary in Yangon Division the next day. Disturbance-makers and some (See page 7)

 Announcement sheet attached