Government of the Union of Myanmar
issues Announcement No. 4/2007

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct—The Government of the Union of Myanmar yesterday issued Announcement No. 4/2007. The following is the full text of the announcement.

Government of the Union of Myanmar
Announcement No. 4/2007
1st Waxing Day of Thadingyut
(12 October 2007)

1. The Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win passed away on the 12th October 2007. The State Funeral for the late Prime Minister will be held at the Mingaladon War Cemetery at 2 pm on Sunday the 14th October 2007.

2. It is hereby announced to observe a period of official mourning for 3 days from 12 to 14 of October 2007 and to fly the National Flag at half mast.

By Order,
Signed
Thant Shin
(Colonel)
Secretary
Government of the Union of Myanmar

People in Rakhine State support National Convention, forthcoming constitution

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct—A ceremony to support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution was held on a grand scale at Danyawady Sports Ground near Lawka Nanda Pagoda in Sittway, Rakhine State, yesterday. Over 71,000 people including townселders, local national races such as Rakhine, Mro (or) Khami, Thet and Dainet, members of social organizations, departmental officials, members of national race cultural troupes, traders, industrialists, businessmen, farmers, workers, members of writers and journalists (See page 8)

The axe-handles are shamelessly harming their motherland’s interests in return for a small amount of dollars from alien countries. Everyone knows that such national traitors will soon meet their tragic ends.

Internal and external subversive elements are awaiting opportune time to use the people through various means.

If the people do not let themselves trapped, the destructive elements will dwindle away like camphor balls.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Pursue steadfastly national goal through State’s seven-step Road Map

Myanmar has constructed a large number of infrastructures necessary for national development. The government is building a modern and developed democratic nation with flourishing discipline, as aspired by the people.

Now, the National Convention, the first step of the State’s seven-step Road Map has been convened successfully. Plans are under way to draft the State constitution with the basic principles and detailed basic principles the National Convention has adopted. The entire people are expressing their support for the NC and upcoming constitution.

Myanmar’s foreign policy is to maintain good relations with regional countries and global countries and cooperate with the United Nations constantly. It deals and work together with these countries and the UN.

Situation in Myanmar does not pose any threats to regional and international peace and security. However, the United Nations Security Council released announcement on Myanmar on 11 October 2007.

Myanmar is in the process of transforming itself into a modern and developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation through the combined efforts of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw, and considerable success has been achieved in this regard.

Despite various barriers, the government will continue to pursue the State’s seven-step Road Map in cooperation with the people in accordance with the desire of the people.

Construction Minister inspects construction of Dagon and Bago bridges

Yangon, 13 Oct—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and officials of Public Works arrived at Dagon bridge construction project site in Dagon Seikkan Township on 13 October.

At Dagon Bridge, Senior Engineers of special road construction project No 16, 15 and Yangon South and North Districts Public Works reported on work being carried out section by section. Managing Director U Khin Maung Hse of Public Works gave supplementary report to the minister. The minister gave necessary instructions and fulfilled the requirements.

In the afternoon, the minister and Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko inspected Bago bridge construction project at project briefing hall, Senior Engineer U Khin Maung Swe briefed on the matters related to the bridge construction.

The six-lane Bago Bridge is 360 feet long and it can withstand 60 tons of load.

More Performing Arts Competitions contestants arrive

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Oct—To participate in the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions, 76 people including contestants from Kayah State, 123 from Kachin State, 19 from Chin State, 115 from Rakhine State and 696 from Yangon Division arrived here today.

They were welcomed by officials of the Welcoming and Accommodation Committee, Nay Pyi Taw Pymmana District Peace and Development Council and social organizations and accommodated at the respective hostels. —MNA

Contestants from States and Divisions arrive in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Contestants from Rakhine State being welcomed by official in Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA

Contestants from Kachin State arrive in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Schools carry out sanitation tasks

Nay Pyi Taw, 13 Oct—Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein this morning visited the basic education schools of Nay Pyi Taw where sanitation work was being carried out by the students and their teachers to mark the School Environment Sanitation Day for 2007-2008 academic year which falls on 13 October.

Deputy Ministers U Myo Nyunt and Brig-Gen Aung Myo Min, Director-General U Bo Win of Education Planning and Training Department and officials accompanied the minister.

At No 1 and No 3 BEHSs, the minister and party viewed school environment sanitation activities in the school buildings, class rooms, toilets and at the entrances to the schools. —MNA

People’s Desire

- Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy
UN says prosecute Iraq contractors who commit crimes

BAGHDAD, 12 Oct — The United Nations called on the United States on Thursday to ensure that any US private contractors committing offenses in Iraq are prosecuted.

The killing of 17 Iraqis in a shooting involving US security firm Blackwater last month has created tensions between Baghdad and Washington and sparked calls for tighter controls on private contractors, who are immune from prosecution in Iraq.

In a new human rights report, the UN mission in Iraq urged “US authorities to investigate reports of deaths caused by privately hired contractors and establish effective mechanisms for holding them accountable for where the circumstances surrounding the killings show no justifiable cause”.

The report covers the April-June quarter and was not specifically referring to the 16 September incident when the government responded lawfully to a threat against a convoy it was guarding.

Turkey recalls ambassador to US over Armenians

ANKARA, 12 Oct — NATO member Turkey recalled its ambassador to the United States for consultations on Thursday after a vote in a US congressional committee branded killings of Armenians by Ottoman Turks genocide.

Turkey’s Prime Minister will ask Parliament next week to authorize a military push although analysts say a large cross-border operation remains unlikely.

Washington fears such an offensive could destabilize Iraq’s most peaceful area and potentially the wider region.

The US House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee approved on Wednesday a resolution branding the killings during World War I as genocide.

The issue of the Armenian massacres is deeply sensitive in Turkey, where it is a crime to portray them as “genocide”.

Blackwater sued by its Iraqi victims in US court

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct — Blackwater, the US security firm whose armed personnel allegedly opened fire on innocent Iraqi civilians last month, was sued on Thursday by an injured survivor and three families of the men killed in the incident.

The plaintiffs alleged that Blackwater “created and fostered a culture of lawlessness amongst its employees, encouraging them to act in the company’s financial interests at the expense of innocent human life”.

Blackwater was guarding a convoy that was attacked by Iraqi authorities have accused Blackwater of “deliberately killing” the 17 Iraqis in last month’s shooting, but the security firm says its guards responded lawfully to a threat against a convoy it was guarding.

The plaintiffs alleged that Blackwater employees, encouraging them to act in the company’s financial interests at the expense of innocent human life”.

They said Blackwater violated the federal Alien Tort Statute by committing extrajudicial killings and war crimes, and that the firm should be liable for claims of assault and battery, wrongful death, intentional and negligent infliction of emotional distress, and negligent hiring, training and supervision.
British nuclear plan faces battle for skills, components

LONDON, 11 Oct— Britain has no shortage of companies lining up to build a new generation of nuclear reactors, if given the go-ahead, but finding enough workers and all the components may prove a bigger challenge.

Britain faces a looming power shortage as old nuclear, gas and coal stations reach the end of their lives, and “new nuclear” is one of the few realistic options to fill the gap without boosting climate-damaging CO2.

Despite initial concerns the industry would balk at the high upfront costs of around two billion pounds (4.1 billion US dollars) a unit, at least 10 companies want to play a part, with British Energy and France’s EDF leading the pack.

Each plant will cost about three billion pounds in total when factoring in the cost of disposing of waste during its lifetime and decommissioning the plant at the end.

“Finding the investors is not the issue,” said an industry source. “There may be big upfront costs and some risks, but once these things are running, they are like cash machines.”

Getting the green light has not been easy but the industry’s biggest problems may lie ahead — from sourcing the parts amid a global renaissance for nuclear power and from sourcing the workers as Britain enters a decade of massive infrastructure renewal.

EDF, the world’s biggest nuclear operator, said on Monday it was considering building four British plants, but added a warning: “There are some significant pinch points in the global supply chain”.

Nine out of Britain’s 10 nuclear stations are set to close by 2023, taking nuclear’s contribution to British electricity from 20 per cent today to around 3 per cent.

Japanese man kidnapped in Iran

Tokyo, 12 Oct — A Japanese man in his 20s has been kidnapped while travelling in southeastern Iran, Japanese officials said on Thursday.

The man called the Japanese Embassy in Teheran on Monday to tell staff there about his situation, and he phoned them again on Wednesday, top government spokesman Nobutaka Machimura said.

“This is truly a regrettable situation,” Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobutaka Machimura told reporters in Tokyo. “We are doing all we can to secure his release.”

He said the Japanese Government had no information about any demands the man’s captors may have made.

Foreign Minister Masahiko Komura said he had asked his counterpart, Manouchehr Mottaki, for cooperation in dealing with the incident.

US police foils school shooting plot

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct — US police have arrested a 14-year-old boy suspected of plotting a “Columbine”-type shooting spree at a Pennsylvania high school, police said on Thursday.

Police officials told CNN that the arrest was made after a search of the boy’s home in Plymouth Township, Pennsy lvana about 25 kilometres northwest of Philadelphia, turned up dozens of weapons, including a nine-millimetre rifle with a laser scope and dozens of air guns.

There were also an operational hand grenade, three other hand grenades in the process of construction, bomb-making equipment and manuals.

The boy’s mother bought the assault rifle for him several weeks ago at a gun show, police said. No ammunition was found for the rifle.

In addition to the weapons, authorities found a hand-painted Nazi flag and a video about the Columbine shootings.

“It is my judgement that this individual considered that something to be glorified and was doing so,” said a police officer.

Two students opened fire at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, on 20 April, 1999. They killed 13 people and wounded 23 others before killing themselves.

UN calls for inquiry into deadly US strike in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 13 Oct — The United Nations mission in Iraq urged US forces on Friday to pursue a “vigorous” probe into an airstrike that killed 15 women and children and said its findings must be made public so that lessons can be learned.

It said the safety of civilians should be a top priority during military operations. In a human rights report published on Thursday, the same day as the attack, the mission highlighted the number of Iraqi civilians killed in recent US airstrikes.

The civilian death toll in Thursday’s operation was one of the largest acknowledged by US forces from an airstrike since former president Saddam Hussein was toppled in 2003.

“Civilians are getting caught far too often between warring combatants,” said UN mission spokesman Said Arikat. “We understand the security concerns, but we also hope that every possible safety measure is taken not to harm any civilians.”

The US military said it was conducting a “thorough investigation” into the strike by its attack helicopters on a suspected meeting of senior al-Qaeda leaders north of Baghdad on Thursday that killed nine children, six women and 19 insurgents.

MNA/Reuters
US oil company Chevron under pressure after profit warning

New York, 12 Oct — Chevron Corp shares came under pressure on Wednesday after the oil giant warned investors to expect third-quarter net earnings “significantly below” the record 5.4 billion US dollars it posted in the previous quarter.

The MarketWatch website reported that Chevron, the second-largest US oil company after Exxon Mobil Corp, late Tuesday blamed the weaker results on “a sharp decline in refined product margins for the downstream business and the impact of non-recurring items.”

The Switzerland-based financial services company UBS cut its third-quarter earnings estimate for Chevron to 1.92 dollars a share from 2.16 dollars a share due to a roughly 375 million dollars reduction in downstream earnings and higher-than-expected corporate expenses.

On average, Wall Street had been expecting earnings of 2.18 dollars a share for Chevron, according to a survey of analysts by Thomson Financial.

IEA says world oil demand to grow slowly than expected

London, 13 Oct — World oil demand will grow more slowly than expected in the fourth quarter as record-high oil prices prompt some consumers to seek alternatives, the International Energy Agency said on Thursday.

The IEA, adviser to industrialized countries, said in its monthly Oil Market Report demand will rise by 2.03 million barrels per day in the fourth quarter from a year ago, 320,000 bpd less than previously expected.

“There has been a bit of substitution going on, natural gas for oil, which is essentially a price effect,” Lawrence Eagles, head of the IEA’s Oil Industry and Markets Division, told Reuters.

“Their have also been some small downward adjustments to economic growth, which have also played a role.”

The cut in fourth-quarter demand follows a similar move by the IEA last month and points to a slightly lower need for oil from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries in the final months of 2007.

OPEC is set to raise output in November, a move that followed months of pressure from the Paris-based IEA which has been worried about the impact of record oil prices above 80 US dollars a barrel on consumers.

The IEA trimmed its assumptions about economic growth “slightly” ahead of new forecasts from the International Monetary Fund and other organizations in the wake of the US subprime mortgage crisis.

Drugmakers recall infant cough/cold medicine in US

Chicago, 12 Oct — Johnson & Johnson, Wyeth and other makers of infants’ nonprescription cough and cold products are recalling certain medicines in the United States because of the danger of overdose, especially in children under the age of two years.

A spokeswoman for Consumer Heathcare, a trade association representing the makers of over-the-counter medicines, said overdoses have led to death and serious injury in rare instances. The recall comes ahead of an October 18-19 meeting of outside experts who will make safety recommendations to the US Food and Drug Administration.

Questions have been raised for more than a year about the safety of the use of nonprescription cough and cold products in children and whether the benefits justify any potential risks, especially in children under two years of age.

EU promotes hydrogen cars, development of hydrogen technologies

Brussels, 12 Oct — The European Commission adopted two proposals on Wednesday to encourage the development and marketing of clean and safe hydrogen cars.

The first proposal is to set up the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Technology Initiative, an ambitious industry-led programme of research, technology development and demonstration activities.

This public-private partnership, driven by Europe’s industry will come to life over the next six years with a financial contribution from the EU of 470 million euros (660 million US dollars), to be matched by the private sector.

The initiative should accelerate the development of hydrogen technologies to the point of commercial take-off between 2010 and 2020, said the commission, the executive body of the European Union (EU).

The commission’s second proposal to simplify the approval of hydrogen cars so that they will be seen more often on Europe’s streets.

Today, hydrogen vehicles are not included in the EU vehicle type-approval system. This results in complicated and costly approval procedures and hinders vehicles being placed on the market on a uniform basis throughout the EU.

MNA/Reuters MNA/Xinhua
The people are so worried about recent protest marches and are in a state of panic. BBC, VOA, RFA, and DVB radio stations are not content with usual programmes of various forms of interviews, news stories and comments, and have extended the broadcasting hours and aired certain programmes repeatedly. They thought that it was opportune time. They were inciting protests by airing news stories repeatedly such as protestors would not give up their movements, students were required to take part in the protests, now students had come to join the protests, there had been disunity in the armed forces, the armed forces should stand by the protesters, the junta was violently breaking up the protests, and it was needed to stage a general boycott. Their broadcasts are designed to instigate a general boycott like the 8-8-1988 mass demonstration.

The people have lots of anxiety that the situation would grow into a large-scale mass demonstration like that in 1988. If so, the administrative machinery will come to a halt, commodity prices will go up sharply, there will not be security, crime rate will get high, anarchy and violence will be rampant, the people do not favour a situation in which the nation faces a boycott like the 8-8-1988 protest, they favour stability and peace, they want to lead a peaceful life, and they do not like high consumer prices.

At the time, special envoy of the Secretary General of the United Nations Mr Gambari arrived in Myanmar. He paid a courtesy call on the Head of State. He also met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi two times. The people were pleased with that news. The Announcement No 1/2007 of the Government of the Union of Myanmar came out on 4 October 2007.

Senior General Than Shwe told Mr Gambari that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi had been exerting efforts for confrontation, utter devastation, imposing all kinds of sanctions including economic sanctions against Myanmar. If she declared to give them up, he would meet her personally, he said.

Soon after the announcement, the protest subsided considerably despite various forms of instigation. It was because the announcement reflected the desire of the people.

Before Daw Aung San Suu Kyi had said something in that regard, the spokesman of the NLD, in an interview programme of a foreign radio station, said that it was impossible, and the announcement implied that she was guilty. It was also said that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi had not been vested power to decide such an important case by herself alone; and that she was the leader of the NLD, so she had to hold discussions about that with executive committee members. That was followed by a variety of comments that the government should not set up any preconditions for the dialogue; that it took an upper hand; and that it was prolonging the processes. The comments implied that she should not accept the offer.

What is the Head of State said was clear

What is confrontation? Confrontation means to oppose the government. The opposite of confrontation is dialogue. Among the demands the party is making all the time, dialogue is ranked top. The international community has suggested that Myanmar handle the issue through a dialogue. Confrontation will have adverse effects on both sides. The term “confrontation” can be defined strong opposition to and strong political conflicts with the government. The people can suffer evil consequences of the conflicts till one side defeats the other. The Head of State made the demand in the interests of the people.

What is utter devastation?

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi once demanded that the government choose one of the two ways—handing over power and utter devastation. VOA said that she had not made any attempts regarding confrontation and utter devastation. Does it mean she has given up these two options? It is very confusing.

Utter devastation will leave everything destroyed in the nation, in other words, the nation will collapse. I am sure Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will accept that point, avoid any means that can harm the nation and give up this stance if she really favours democracy. I wonder why attempts are being made to jump the track.

Economic sanctions against Myanmar have adverse effects on the people, rather than on the government. The government practises the market-oriented economic system. According to the situations, the doors for the system should not be opened cent per cent yet, and it still has to impose some restrictions. However, the people can do their businesses freely. Due to the economic sanctions, many foreign entrepreneurs have withdrawn their investments in Myanmar. The closure of their factories made thousands of workers lose their jobs. Myanmar is facing economic decline because international community no longer purchases her products. The international community does not sell things necessary for her. So, she has to purchase such things in the world black market through brokers. Border trade with neighbouring countries relieves her to some extent. Myanmar people now have hard times owing to economic sanctions imposed on her.

What is the cause of hike in community prices, and scarcity and high prices of foreign-made goods in the nation? Why does Myanmar find it difficult to export its products? Why do not its products have reasonable prices? It is because of economic sanctions.
Ambassadors sign in Book of Condolences opened for late Prime Minister General Soe Win

YANGON, 13 Oct— The Book of Condolences for the demise of Member of the State Peace and Development Council Prime Minister General Soe Win on 12 October is opened at the Pyithu Hluttaw Building on Pyay Road, here. This morning and afternoon, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Cambodian Ambassador Mr Hul Phany, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China Mr Guan Mu, Laotian Ambassador Mr Kouly A Souphakhет, Egyptian Ambassador Mr Youssef Kamal Botros Hanna, Singaporean Ambassador Mr Robert Chua Hian Kong, Filipino Ambassador Mr Noel C Cabrera, Bangladeshi Ambassador Mr Mohammed Khairuzzaman, Thai Ambassador Mr Bansarn Bunnag, Russian Ambassador Mr Mikhail M Mgeladze, Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Tran Van Tung, Malaysian Ambassador Dato Shaharuddin Bin Md-Som, Australian Ambassador Mr Robert Joseph Davis, Indian Ambassador Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra, Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam Pehin Datu Inderasugara Brig-Gen (B) Dato Paduka Haji Mohammad Yusof bin Abu Bakar, Japanese Ambassador Mr Yasuaki Nogawa, Charge d’Affaires ai of Pakistan Mr Habibur Rehman and Indonesian Charge d’Affaires ai Mr Philemon Arobaya signed in the Book of Condolences.

WASHINGTON, 13 Oct— A “catastrophic failure” in the Bush Administration’s leadership of the Iraq war has mired the United States in a nightmarish conflict with no clear way out, the former top US commander in Iraq said on Friday.

The blistering assessment by retired Ricardo Lieutenant-General Sanchez was one of the harshest yet by a top military leader involved in the war.

“There has been a glaring, unfortunate display of incompetent strategic leadership within our national leaders,” Sanchez told a group of military reporters, according to a copy of his remarks.

“America continues its desperate struggle in Iraq without any concerted effort to devise a strategy that will achieve ‘victory’ in that war-torn country or in the greater conflict against extremism,” he said.

Without mentioning President George W Bush by name, he called the president’s troop-escalation “surge” strategy a “desperate attempt by an administration that has not accepted the political and economic realities of this war.”

MNA/Reuters
People in Rakhine State support National Convention,…

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associations, teachers and students of Sittway University, Sittway Technology University, Sittway University of Computer Studies, basic education schools, nurses, members of Rakhine Drum and locals from all walks of life attended the ceremony.

Before the ceremony, Sittway District column led by Director U Ohn Thwin of State Development Affairs Committee, Maungtaw District Column led by Director U Than Tun of Border Trade Department, Kyaukpyu District column led by Commissioner U Khin Sein of Myanma Electric Power Supply Enterprise, Thandwe District column led by Regional Supervisor U Oo Saw Win of Border Areas and National Races Development Department took their designated places.

Rector U Ba Shwe of Sittway University presided over the mass rally together with Executive U Tun Win of Rakhine State Union Solidarity and Development Association, Chairperson Daw Kyi Kyi Wai of Rakhine State Women’s Affairs Organization, member of Sittway District Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Saw Shwe, Member of Sittway Township War Veterans Organization Captain Thein Tun (Retd), Townselders State Education Officer (Inspection) (Retd) U Saw Tun Aung and Deputy State Justice (Retd) U Aung Mya as members of the panel of chairmen. Member of People in Rakhine State support National Convention,…

Local residents including national races, entrepreneurs, peasants and workers, teachers and students marching to the ceremony to support the National Convention and the constitution in Sittway, Rakhine State.—MNA

attendees saluted the State Flag.

In his address, Chairman U Ba Shwe said: Constitution is vital for development and stability of a nation. Therefore, we, the people of Rakhine State, are gathering here to support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution. The National Convention was successfully completed on 3 September, 2007. It laid down fundamental principles and detailed basic principles. Based on these principles, the constitution is to be drafted. These principles guarantee perpetuation and prosperity of the State.

A peaceful, modern, developed nation with discipline-flourishing democracy will be built based on these principles. This is the desire and goal of the entire citizens who cherish their motherland. To realize this goal, Our Three Main National Causes must be put in the fore.

Five delegates of Political Parties, two from Representatives-elect, 36 National Race delegates, two delegates of workers, three peasant delegates and four delegates from other invited persons totaling 52 from Rakhine State attended the National convention. After thoroughly discussing the historical background and the current affairs of the State, delegates to the National Convention laid down principles which will perpetuate the nation. Destructionists inside and outside the country tried to undermine the National Convention. As the National Convention was successfully completed, they tried to hinder the emergence of a new constitution. A study of the recent unrest in some parts of the nation shows that destructionists inside and outside the country intentionally plot to cause these unrest.

Through some media of the world, those who do not want to see the development of the State tried to put the country on the verge of chaos. On the pretext of bringing down the commodity prices, they created unrest using monks. These acts created only obstacles to marching towards the goal of democracy. As the government
People in Rakhine State support National Convention....

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magnanimously handled the situation, peace prevails throughout the country, now. Therefore, the entire people are to oppose the acts of destructionists through the strength of all the people. The government did not organize the National Convention but only issued necessary directives for the delegates from the political parties and independent representatives-elect to carry out the tasks. They approved 104 basic principles.

At that time, a political party with negative views walked out of the National Convention. Therefore the National Convention was adjourned temporarily in 1996. The National Convention resumed on 17 May 2004 after laying down the seven-point Road Map. On 3 September 2007, the Convention was completed successfully.

The fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention are barriers to external and internal destructive elements. Therefore they hindered the success of the National Convention employing various means.

They persuaded the monks to create public unrest. Their acts were arranged to coincide with the sessions of the UNGA, UNSC and UN Human Rights Council.

The government in cooperation with the people handled the protests magnanimously and the situation was back to normal.

In conclusion, the people should support the National Convention and forthcoming constitution, the first phase for introduction of discipline-flourishing multi-party democracy system, and denounce those who undermine peace and stability of the State.

Secretary Daw Sandar Than of Rakhine State Women’s Affairs Organization said in such a transition period the desire of all the people is for peace and stability and development of the State. Rakhine State WAO is actively participating in the tasks for serving the interests of the State and the people in cooperation with other social organizations.

Daw Kyaw Kyaw Wai acts as master of ceremonies and Daw Kaythi Aung Co-MC.—MNA

Daw Kyaw Kyaw Wai of Kyaukpyu

Township MCWA said over 5 million.

At present, the National Convention was successfully completed. The fundamental principles and detailed basic principles to be included in the drawing of the forthcoming constitution laid down by the NC will be more complete than those of the two abolished constitutions drafted in 1947 and 1974 respectively.

The principles include the rights of mothers, children, older persons and the disabled.

To build modern developed nation it is necessary to develop high qualified human resources. In Rakhine State health facilities have been burgeoning and health care services are being constantly provided for the people. These are sound foundations being laid down for the emergence of a peaceful modern developed nation.

Meanwhile, the internal and external destructive elements staged protests making demands at the expense of some monks and people.

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People in Rakhine State support National Convention,

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The government has adopted the political course—seven-step Road Map. Implementation of the seven-step Road Map is well under way.

At the same time, some foreign radio stations are airing fabricated news to undermine the seven-step Road Map. Their acts are obstacles to the progress of our country.

The entire people do not want any evil acts being committed by a handful of destructive elements and are opposing unrest and violence instigated by the traitors. Therefore, we support the National Convention and the constitution, and strongly denounce the acts of the destructive elements.

Chairman of Sittway Township War Veterans Organizing Committee Capt Kyaw Kyaw Tun (Redt) continued to second the motion. He said that the government upholding Our Three Main National Causes—non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty—is making all-out efforts for the emergence of a peaceful and developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation the people long for. In the process, the National Convention, the first and crucial step of the seven-step Road Map, was successfully convened. The National Convention is meeting with success there emerged attacks of non-national elements. It is also taking part in the drive for national development.

State Law Officer (Grade D-I) U Tha Hla (Redt) said, it is a great pleasure to know the National Convention that laid down the basic principles for drawing a constitution has been successfully completed.

According to the principles for the national races, the future State will be formed with seven regions and seven states. In addition, there will be a self-administered division for Wa nationals and five self-administered zones for Naga, Danyi, PaO, Palaung and Kokang. For the legislative and executive sectors, division/division/hluttaw and state hluttaws will be formed and for the judicial sector also high courts will be formed. The minorities with a population of 10,000 and above will have a representative each for self-administered divisions and zones. Therefore, the forthcoming constitution offers much better rights than the previous ones. Moreover, the State will help promote the language, literature, art, and culture of national races; strengthen national consolidation; and provide unity among the internal and external national races who have little progress. Although the National Convention has laid down the principles serving the interests of the State and the people, the internal and external destructive elements with negative view are undermining the rights of the national races and criticizing the government. Their accusations are aimed at disintegrating the Union and national consolidation.

So, all the people are to guard against the destructionists. The 1947 and 1974 constitutions became defunct due to their loopholes and weaknesses. But now being able to lay down the principles for the drawing of a constitution will ensure the peace and tranquillity and development of the future State. All in all, all the people fully support the National Convention and the constitution.

Health Officer of Rakhine State Dr San Shwe seconded the motion calling for support of the National Convention and forthcoming constitution and condemnation of those who undermine peace and stability of the State.

Our country needs an enduring constitution in order to stand tall among the nations of the world. Only when there is a constitution, will the national policy be safeguarded. Therefore, all the people believe that the enduring constitution must be prescribed.

In a country changing one system from another is easier said than done. It is a complex process. After the government had taken up the State duties, it placed emphasis on stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order. The government also built national reconciliation and made endeavours for development in all sectors.

When I was young I received education only in cities. Now the youths can receive higher education in Rakhine State. The government has built grand Sittway University, technological university and university of computer studies.

All the national races are very proud of the progress achieved. A small number of people who begrudged such progress made attempt to undermine the development due to the instigations of the some big nations and their followers. Recently there have been protests. Foreign broadcasting stations reported fabricated news on the pretext of high commodity prices. As a result, some monks and people got involved in the protests. The government handled the situation patiently and restored stability.

The people believe that a peaceful, modern developed discipline-flourishing democratic nation can be built in accord with the forthcoming constitution. Therefore, I seconded the motion calling for support of the National Convention and forthcoming constitution and condemnation of those who undermine peace and stability of the State.

Next, the chairman sought approval of those present and they unanimously support the National Convention and forthcoming constitution and condemn those who undermine peace and stability of the State.

Then those present chanted slogans and the ceremony came to a close at 9 am.—MNA

Recent demonstrations staged by some monks and NLD members to undermine living conditions of people.

Nav Pyi Taw, 13 Occt—The local people in Loilem who favour stability of the State, rule of law and community peace and tranquillity held a mass rally in Loilem Township, Shan State (South) on 11 October with the concept that recent demonstrations staged by some monks and NLD members undermined the living conditions of the people. They organized the procession after seeking permission from the authorities concerned in accord with the law.

Over 15,000 people from the wards of Loilem, Panglong Townships and nearby villages holding the placards that read “We cannot serve as slaves”, “We favour peace”, “We oppose unrest and violence”, “Watch out BBC, VOA, RFA saboteurs airing skyful of lies”, walked in procession around the townships chanting “Our Three Main National Causes” and “the seven-step Road Map meets with success”.—MNA
HAILING THE 15TH MYANMAR TRADITIONAL PERFORMING ARTS COMPETITIONS

Kwet Seik and Pyazat

Dr Khin Maung Nyunt

Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions due to be held in Nay Pyi Taw, October, 2007 mark the fifteenth anniversary of this great cultural event of the country on national scale. In addition to special arrangements and increased number of competitors in a variety of Myanmar performing arts, two new features of this year’s event are “Kwet Seik” and “Pyazat”, the former old and traditional and the latter modern performing arts which belong to the genre of dramatic performances. “Kwet Seik” is a Myanmar word meaning a dramatic narration of religious or historical stories by a single person affecting various roles. “Pyazat” means modern play. Both types are important landmarks in the history of the origin and development of Myanmar dramatic performances. Myanmar word ‘zat’, for drama is a derivative from Pali word ‘Jataka’ which means live story of the Buddha. In a wider context all dramatic performances are ‘zat pwses’ whether they are performed by a single person or a party of human artists or by puppets.

The late Sayagyi Dr Htin Aung in his PhD dissertation “Myanmar Drama” 1937, states that spirit dances, Nipatkhins, Kwet Seik and Mye Pya Waing were the four stages in sequence before perfect Myanmar drama on stage emerged. Spirit dances are by nat mediums, depicting, miming and enacting the stories of nat spirits. Nipatkhins are dumb shows depicting jatapas. Kwet Seik and Mye Pya Waing one after the other or almost at the same time emerged. Mye Pya Waing was a dramatic performance by a trio of three actors—one male, one female and one male extra, on a circular patch of ground, out in the open late in the evening lighted by torches around. A troupe of 4 to 5 percussion and wind instrumentalists accompanied the performance. The spectators squatted on ground to watch the performance throughout the night till dawn.

Kwet Seik was held late in the evening. After the daily chores were over rural folks gathered in the foreground of the village headman’s house or in a zayat (rest house). They squatted on the floor. Kwet Seik narrator sat amidst the audience and narrated dramatically a jataka story alone, taking all character roles himself, miming the voice, gestures and expression of the character he was assuming. He recited Pali gathas, sang relevant theme songs and producing relevant accompanying music from his mouth, nose, palms and hands. With short breaks for rest, toilet and refreshments during which Kwet Seik man would make puffs with his long cheroot, two or three rounds of munching pickled tea or chewing betel leaf and nuts, Kwet Seik lasted till dawn. Kwet Seik man was an all-round artist, usually middle age or even older, well-versed in Pali, dramatic literature, music, song verbal acting, mimicry and dramatic narration. To break the monotony, he occasionally cracked jokes. But like many all other Myanmar dramatic performances, Kwet Seik was not simply to entertain but to educate morally and propagate Buddhism to the public. Kwet Seik always ends with a moral lesson. Kwet Seik is called “Hnaw Aye” in Mye Pya Lat areas of South Shan States. It becomes “Haw Sar” if a monk makes a dramatic narration of a jataka story. Myanmar Radio broadcasts occasionally recorded Kwet Seik of Sayagyi Twantay Saya Nyunt in evening programmes.

Myanmar pyazat may be classified into old type and modern type. The old pyazat originated in the late 18th century and reached its peak in late 19th century, with emergence of two playwrights, U Kyin U and U Ponnya. They began to introduce non-jataka themes into their plays but retained moral lessons.

Modern type of pyazat appeared in late British colonial period due to the impact of films. Private dramatic troupes of that time introduced a new programme to fill the first part of then all night show. These innovations were called “Lu dat Shin” in upper Myanmar and “Lu bicscope” in lower Myanmar. Films were called “dat shin” in upper Myanmar and “bicscope” in lower Myanmar. ‘Lu’ means human. So it means films by human actors on stage. The theme was invariably love and the story was usual boy meets girl—fallen in love—separated-after some adventures reunited. Hero—heroine—villain triangular pattern with supporting characters. As in the case of films, love stories, stunts, fightings, tragedies but happy ending are the matter-of-fact. Dresses, hair styles, dialogues, acting, songs were modern or fashion of the time. Some actors imitated famous film stars of the time. Music was also modern played by a band of modern musical instrumentalists.

In the war time, Lu dat shin was developed into modern play. No lighting at night for fear of air raid, entertainment took place in day time. In Yangon, on the grounds of Kandaw Gyi Lake was built a makeshift theatre hall named Myaing Yone. There, pyazats were performed—Pyazat versions of films not jataka performance. Love stories written by film directors—either comedy or tragedy or the two combined as melo drama. Each show lasted not more than 3 hours. These war time pyazats were pioneer to the post-war well developed pyazats. Few names of hits that the writer could recall are “Nge Kyun Swe”, “Gon Yee Matu”, “Ta Wa Kyut Paw Thet Wai Ye”. etc.

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**US military leaders admit Army "out of balance"**

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct — US Secretary of Defence Robert Gates admitted Wednesday that the US Army is under severe stress and "out of balance", although he denied that it's broken by the Iraq war.

Addressing the annual meeting of the Association of the United States Army, Gates also said he recognized the fact that the Army has been under-funded, and that the US Government needs to provide enough money for personnel and equipment in the coming years.

One day earlier, Army Chief of Staff General George Casey said six years of war has taxed the US military, which is "out of balance".

"We are consuming our readiness as quickly as we are building it," Casey said.

As the Iraq war drags on, many US military leaders have been concerned the Army has been stretched too thin and is approaching its breaking point.

MNA/Xinhua

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**Iraq to probe killing of 2 women by foreign guards in Baghdad**

BAGHDAD, 12 Oct — Iraq’s Interior Ministry formed a committee to investigate the killing of two women by guards working for an Australian-owned security firm in central Baghdad, a ministry spokesman said on Wednesday.

"A committee formed by the Interior Ministry would launch an investigation Wednesday about the killing of two women by foreign security guards on Tuesday on the main road in Karradahe, according to the police. Witnesses said that the killed driver was Maronis Awais, a 39-year-old Christian woman who works as a taxi driver.

Another female passenger in the front seat who died of gunshot in the head, they said, adding that a third woman passenger was wounded in the shoulder, while her child was injured by flying glass.

A spokesman for Unity Resources Group, a security firm whose head office is in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, admitted that its guards were involved in Tuesday’s shooting. The company is run by former Australian Army personnel.

MNA/Xinhua

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**Germany says Airbus may alter process for plant sales**

BERLIN, 12 Oct — European plane maker Airbus could alter the bidding process for the planned sale of some German plants, a senior government official said on Thursday.

"You should not rule out the possibility that the company could decide to change the design of the tender," Peter Hintze, the German Government’s aerospace coordinator, told reporters.

Airbus, a unit of European aerospace group EADS, plans to sell all or part of several of its 116 European plants after delays to its A380 superjumbo hit the company last year. Hintze also said Germany would prefer a "major reshuffling" of the group.

The plan would require a major reshuffling and it would make Marines the dominant American force in Afghanistan in a war that has broader public support than the one in Iraq, the Times said.

Some officials sympathetic to the Army said such a realignment would help ease some pressure on the Army by allowing it to shift forces from Afghanistan into Iraq, the newspaper reported.

"The suggestion was raised in a closed-door session last week, convened by Defence Secretary Robert Gates for the Joint Chiefs of Staff and regional war-fighting commanders and is under review, the article said.

A Pentagon spokesman had no immediate comment.

Aides to both Gates and the new chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Admiral Mike Mullen, said no formal proposal had been presented by the Marines, the newspaper reported.

MNA/Reuters

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**US Marines press to move units from Iraq**

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct — The US Marine Corps is pressing to remove its forces from Iraq and send Marines instead to Afghanistan to take the lead in combat there, The New York Times reported on Wednesday.

Supporters argue that a realignment could allow the US Army and Marines each to operate more efficiently in sustaining troop levels for two wars that have strained their forces, the paper said, citing senior military and Pentagon officials who requested anonymity.

US Marines press to move units from Iraq

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**Two killed in Thai South**

BANGKOK, 12 Oct — Suspected insurgents gunned down a Muslim religious leader and the head of the Bukit sub-district Administrative Organization in separate attacks on Wednesday in southern Thailand’s province of Narathiwat, according to the Thai News Agency.

Imam Asae Dengsa, 43, religious leader at a mosque in Chanae District, was gunned down while he and his two children were riding a motorcycle home from work at a rubber plantation. An unknown number of gunmen armed with assault rifles ambushed Imam Asae, who died immediately at the scene. In another incident, Sapawi Yapa, chairman of the Bukit sub-district Administrative Organization, was killed by an unknown number of gunmen. His wife and another relative were severely wounded.

MNA/Xinhua

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**US Marines probe Afghan civilian killings in March**

WASHINGTON, 12 Oct — The US Marine Corps said on Thursday said it will investigate the March killing of a number of Afghan civilians, opening a formal process that could lead to trials under military law.

The Marine Corps will convene a court of inquiry — an administrative fact-finding process authorized under US military law — into a March 4 incident in which a US Marine special forces unit has been accused of firing on civilians.

MNA/Reuters
NASA considers delaying space shuttle launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, 12 Oct—NASA is considering delaying space shuttle Discovery’s planned October 23 liftoff to replace three possibly defective heat shield panels on the ship’s wing, officials said on Wednesday.

The shuttle is scheduled to haul a key connection to the International Space Station so adding to the International problem, said Kirk Shireman, NASA’s deputy programme manager for the space station. — MNA/Reuters

China Golden Horse Award winning actress Qin Hailu appeared as an auctioneer at a charity event on Wednesday, raising funds to help patients with eye diseases. Chinese actress Qin Hailu poses with her own picture at a charity event on 10 Oct, 2007. — INTERNET

Kashmir destroys rare hides to protect wildlife

SRINAGAR, 12 Oct—Wildlife authorities in Indian Kashmir have begun destroying thousands of animal hides and garments made from the skins of rare animals seized in a campaign to protect the region’s wildlife, officials said on Monday.

“We destroyed nearly 10,000 hides and garments by setting them on fire yesterday...this will continue for more than a week,” said Rashid Y Naqash, a wildlife warden.

“By destroying these rare animal skins and garments we are sending a tough message to poachers and traders across the country. I am sure this will help wildlife.”

Despite poaching being illegal, rare animals are still killed. These include snow leopards, tigers, deers, jackals, foxes, wolves and jungle cats whose furs fetch lucrative prices on the international market.

Kashmir, where tens of thousands of people have been killed in over 17 years of separatist revolt, was famous for taxidermy and in making fur garments.

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In this photo released by the Wildlife Conservation Society, M’wasi is a five-year-old male African lion reclines in the ‘Lion Island Habitat’ in the Bronx Zoo, on 11 Oct, 2007 in New York. M’wasi is a guest at the zoo: on loan from Colorado Springs Zoo. — INTERNET

Elephant kills handler in Russian zoo

MOSCOW, 12 Oct—A nervous elephant at a Russian zoo killed its handler on Wednesday with a single blow of its trunk after lashing out while being moved onto a truck.

Elephant handlers at Moscow city zoo had been trying to load three African elephants onto a specially designed truck to transfer them to a zoo in Spain when the elephant killed the 40-year-old woman.

“It was a most unfortunate death of a dedicated zookeeper who had worked with these animals for many years,” a spokeswoman for the zoo said.

Moscow zoo had wanted to move the elephants because the city centre zoo was too cramped.

In this photo released by the Wildlife Conservation Society, M’wasi is a five-year-old male African lion reclines in the ‘Lion Island Habitat’ in the Bronx Zoo, on 11 Oct, 2007 in New York. M’wasi is a guest at the zoo: on loan from Colorado Springs Zoo. — INTERNET

Thieves caught struggling with 30 kilos bag of coins in E China

JI’AN, 12 Oct—Two young men were caught by police as they struggled to flee with a 30-kilo bag of one-yuan coins they had stolen from their boss at a restaurant in Qingdao, a coastal city of Shandong Province.

The men, surnamed Gao and Ding from Shaanxi and Hebei provinces, broke into the restaurant through the window at about 2:00 am on Tuesday. They planned to take all the 15,000-yuan (1.973-7-US-dollar) in coins but found they were unable to carry the bag.

Reluctantly they took out coins until they could lift it. A passerby called the police at 5:00 am when he saw the two men “hurrying along with a suspicious bag which tinkled”, according to local police. — MNA/Xinhua

Britain’s Lessing wins 2007 Nobel for literature

STOCKHOLM, 12 Oct—British novelist Doris Lessing won the 2007 Nobel Prize for literature, the Swedish Academy said on Thursday.

The academy, which decides on the prestigious 10-million-Swedish (1.54-million-US-dollar) award, called the 87-year-old Lessing an “epicist of the female experience, who with scepticism, fire and visionary power has subjected a divided civilization to scrutiny”.

This was the fourth of this year’s crop of Nobels, handed out annually for achievements in science, literature, economics and peace.

The prizes bearing the name of dynamic inventor Alfred Nobel were first awarded in 1901 in accordance with the 1895 will of the Swedish businessman.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters
SPORTS

Australia pulls out of bidding for Women's 2011 World Cup
ZURICH, 13 Oct — Australia has pulled out of the bidding to host the 2011 Women’s World Cup, leaving Canada, Germany and Peru as the remaining contenders to stage the event.

World soccer’s governing body FIFA said on Friday it had received a formal letter from the Australian football federation confirming the country’s withdrawal. FIFA gave no reason for the decision in its statement.

The final decision on the hosts will be made by FIFA’s executive committee on October 30 when the body is also expected to confirm that Brazil will stage the 2014 men’s World Cup. — MNA/Reuters

France want Euro qualifier in Faroes postponed
PARIS, 13 Oct — France will ask for Saturday’s Euro 2008 qualifier to be postponed after the team’s plane was unable to land in the Faroe Islands due to bad weather, a source close to the French Football Federation said on Friday.

“The federation will ask for the game to be postponed because these are extraordinary circumstances,” the source told Reuters. The plane, which was taking the French team to their Group B match in Torshavn, was diverted to Bergen in Norway.

Les Bleus will either fly to the Faroes on Saturday morning or take a ferry.

UEFA rules state that a team have to arrive at the match venue 24 hours before kickoff, which was scheduled for 1500 GMT on Saturday. — MNA/Reuters

FIFA postpones NZ vs Fiji World Cup match
WELLINGTON, 13 Oct — Soccer’s ruling body FIFA has postponed a World Cup qualifier between New Zealand and Fiji, fearing a visa wrangle might set a dangerous precedent.

The move followed a New Zealand Government decision to bar Fiji’s goalkeeper Simione Tamanisau from entering the country because his father-in-law is a military policeman, said Oceania Football general secretary Tai Nicholas.

New Zealand prohibits anyone with links to Fiji’s military from entering New Zealand and has banned sporting contact at national level as part of sanctions put in place after a military coup in the Pacific Island nation last December.

“Football is a truly global game and to have a match involving political interference would set a bad precedent,” Nicholas said in a statement.

An exception had made to the ban on sporting contact to allow New Zealand Football to fulfil its world cup obligations, but Tamanisau had been deemed ineligible because of the military ties rule.

New Zealand Football chief executive Graham Seatter told Reuters that FIFA had indicated it did not want to see one player from a squad being denied entry to a country for an international match.

“Their view is that this is a relatively trivial matter for a visa not to be granted,” Seatter said. — MNA/Reuters

Euro 2008 hosts play down terrorism fears
ZURICH, 13 Oct — Security chiefs on Friday played down reports of terrorism threats against next year’s European Championship, following a two-day summit in Zurich.

Martin Jaeggi, head of Switzerland’s security operations for the June 2008 tournament, said the recent arrests of three people in Austria was not being treated as a genuine threat to Euro 2008.

“One of the three was freed for lack of evidence. Police said there were no indications of attacks being actively planned and no one had been charged with any crime.”

“If seems Euro 2008 was mentioned in passing in talks between these alleged extremists but not in a way that needs to be taken seriously,” Jaeggi told Reuters.

“On the other hand it is clearly a good thing that we are receiving this information so we can clarify the situation.”

Jaeggi rejected suggestions that a riot in the Swiss capital Berne on Saturday reflected badly on the state of police preparations for Euro 2008.

More than two dozen police officers were injured after leftist protestors disrupted an officially-sanctioned rally of the country’s right-wing Swiss People’s Party.

The rally was scheduled to take place in front of the national Parliament, close to where Berne will stage public viewing events during Euro 2008.

“I don’t want to comment on what precisely happened in Berne as this is currently under review by the city’s police force,” Jaeggi said. — MNA/Reuters

Mali, Benin qualify for African Nations Cup
JOHANNESBURG, 13 Oct — Striker Frederic Kanoute led Mali into the African Nations Cup finals with the opening goal in a decisive 2-0 away win over Togo in Lome on Friday.

Kanoute’s first-half header set Mali on their way and a late goal by Mamadou Diallo sealed the win and top slot in Group Nine.

Both sides had needed victory to qualify for the finals and Togo, who reached the 2006 World Cup, had high hopes after the return to the side of

Mali, Benin qualified for the 2008 African Nations Cup in Ghana after a tense climax to Group 9 on Friday. Mamadou Diallo, seen here in action in April 2007, scored in injury time to seal a 2-0 win for Mali over Togo in Lome. — Internet

INJURED TOREO TO MISS SPAIN QUALIFIER IN DENMARK
AARHUS (Denmark), 13 Oct — Space striker Fernando Torres will miss Saturday’s Euro 2008 qualifier in Denmark after suffering an injury in training on Friday. The Liverpool striker had to leave the afternoon training session in Aarhus after suffering a small muscle tear in his right leg and subject to further tests will be out for between eight and 10 days, team doctor Genaro Borras told reporters. The setback will also rule him out of Wednesday’s friendly in Finland. — MNA/Reuters

Doping case against Totti dropped
MILAN, 13 Oct — A possible doping case against AS Roma striker Francesco Totti has been dropped, the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) said on Friday.

A statement on FIGC’s Web site (www.figc.it) said that its Federal Court of Justice had agreed to archive the case after a request from the Italian Olympic Committee’s anti-doping unit.

It gave no details of the possible offence committed by Totti but Italy’s ANSA news service said the 31-year-old had been late for a routine doping test on 13 May.

His second child Chanel was born on this date, which may be a reason why he was late for the test. — MNA/Reuters

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE

Mali, Benin qualified for African Nations Cup in Ghana after a tense climax to Group 9 on Friday. Mamadou Diallo, seen here in action in April 2007, scored in injury time to seal a 2-0 win for Mali over Togo in Lome.
General Soe Win
BC/11715
Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar

Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Soe Win, son of (U Sann Myint)-Daw Thein Kyi, beloved spouse of Daw Than Than Nwe of Nay Pyi Taw, elder brother of (Maj-Gen Tin Tun) and Daw Khin Myint Wai, father of U Nay Soe-Daw Zabei Myaing, and Daw Thein Thein Soe-U Tin Htut, grandfather of four passed away at 5.30 pm on 12 October 2007.

Funeral cortège will leave the Defence Services General Hospital (Mingaladon) at 2 pm on Sunday 14 October 2007 for Mingaladon War Cemetery where the remains will be cremated. Cars will leave the residence at 12.30 pm.

Bereaved Family

Flooding in Vietnam claims 80 lives
HANOI, 13 Oct — Flooding, starting to hit Vietnam’s northern and central regions on October 4 and the worst in the country over the past 45 years, killed 80 local people and left nine others missing as of early Thursday morning.

Central Nghe An Province in the most severe-hit locality with 34 deaths, according to the Vietnamese Central Steering Committee for Flood and Storm Prevention.

The disaster also damaged over 137,000 houses, and inundated nearly 150,000 hectares of subsidiary crops, said the committee.

WEATHER
Saturday, 13 October, 2007
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayah State, rain or thunderstorms have been isolated in Kachin and Kayin States, upper Sagaing, Magway and Taninthayi Divisions, scattered in Shan State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in Rakhine State and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in Mon State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Mawlamyine (3.42) inches, CoCo Island (2.83) inches, Zaungtu (2.15) inches, Hmauwi (1.41) inches, Pyay (1.26) inches, Hinthada and Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (1.12) inches each, Showebo and Yamethin (0.51) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 12-10-2007 was 87ºF. Minimum temperature on 13-10-2007 was 71ºF. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 13-10-2007 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 12-10-2007 was (5:6) hours approx.

Rainfall on 13-10-2007 was (0.63) inches at Mingaladon, (1.22) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.67) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (152.72) inches at Mingaladon, (138.19) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.12) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from East at (09:30) hours MST on 13-10-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 14-10-2007: Rain or thunderstorms will be isolated in Kayah State and Mainggyi Division, scattered in Kachin, Shan and Chin States, Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Rakhine State and Tangunthai Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thunderstorms in the Deltaic areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 14-10-2007: Isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 14-10-2007: One or two rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 14-10-2007: Isolated rain or thunderstorms. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Flood Bulletin
(Issued at 12:30 hr for MST on 13-10-2007)
According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk (1121) cm is exceeded (51) cm above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (1070) cm during the next (48) hrs continuing noon today.

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14-10-07 NL 08/13/18, 02:16 AM
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

Who are the winners, who the losers from violent protests?

☆ Due to violence and unrest
   Only ordinary people have to suffer
   Daily wage earners become jobless
   Poor business for shopkeepers and vendors
   Taxi drivers and trishaw men have hard times
   Stores and restaurants have to be kept closed

☆ Due to violence and unrest
   Only the notorious neo-colonialists benefited
   Colonialist-funded media and expertriates earning dollar rewards
   Only sabouteurs reap the benefits

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