The emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Hand down and preserve Myanmar traditional medical science

Myanmar traditional medical science is a royal medical science. In the successive periods, health care has been provided to the people with the use of potent traditional medicines and effective therapies.

Now, the government is fulfilling requirements for promotion and improvement of Myanmar traditional medical science such as opening of universities of traditional medicine to produce traditional medicine practitioners, carrying out research to produce potent traditional medicines, and establishment of herbal plant gardens to grow and nurture herbal plants.

The Ministry of Health has set up the Department of Medical Research (Upper Myanmar) in PyinOoLwin Township to do research for production of efficacious medicines for six major diseases: malaria, TB, hypertension, diabetes, diarrhoea and dysentery.

Many traditional medicine hospitals and dispensaries have been established in cities and townships to provide public health care to the people. So far, the nation has seen 14 traditional medicine hospitals, and 243 traditional medicine clinics.

Myanmar traditional medical science is very wide and delicate. So, duties are to be handed over from one generation to another to preserve their potency and fine characters. It is also required to strive for promoting of Myanmar traditional medical science to become internationally popular one.

At a time when the government is giving encouragement for raising the standard of Myanmar traditional medical science, Myanmar traditional medicine practitioners and producers should produce and distribute time-tested medicines and potent and reliable traditional medicines to help provide public health care all the more.

Ceremony to mark World Food Day 2007 held

NAVPYATAW, 16 Oct — A ceremony to mark World Food Day 2007 was held at the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, here, today with an opening speech by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo.

Present on the occasion were ministers, deputy ministers Resident Representative of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Mr Tang Zhengping, ambassadors and charge d’ affaires, resident representatives of UN agencies and officials, departmental heads, members of Myanmar agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries enterprises, officials of the central committee for organizing World Food Day-2007 and work committee, local and foreign journalists, representatives from the prize-winning townships, winners and guests.

Firstly, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo made an opening speech.

Next, Resident Representative of UNFAO Mr Tang Zhengping read out the message of the Director General of UNFAO.

Winners of the essay, painting and poster contests were honoured at the ceremony. Ministers, deputy ministers and Mr Tang Zhengping presented awards to the winners.

Then, the minister and party viewed around the booths and farm implements displayed in front of meeting hall by Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Forestry, UNFAO and entrepreneurs. — MNA

Intellectual disabled athletes back from Shanghai

YANGON, 16 Oct — A team of intellectual disabled athletes led by Col Myo Myint (Retd) arrived here by air on 12 October after participating in the World Intellectual Disabled Athletes Competition held in Shanghai, China, from 28 September to 12 October.

The team won two gold medals and five silver medals in the competition. They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by the officials of the Ministry of Sports, the executives of Myanmar Disabled Sports Federation and their relatives.

The athletes—Ma Khin Sanda Win won a gold medal in walking event, Ma Su Nanda Win a gold medal in the 200-metre race, Ma Khin Sanda Win one silver in the Soft-Ball event, Ma Yu Yu Swe a silver medal in the 25-metre race, Maung Chan Tha a silver medal in BOCCE event and Maung Chan Tha and Ma Zin May Thant shared one silver medal in BOCCE event. — MNA

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattened
* Do not be softened whenever appeased
ASEAN Capital Business Forum opens in Vietnam

HANOI, 16 Oct — The ASEAN Capital Business Forum (ACBF) opened here on Monday, focusing on issues relating to financial markets, challenges of businesses after participating in the ASEAN Free Trade Area, and the block’s economic situation.

The two-day forum themed “For a Prosperous ASEAN” will create opportunities for businesspeople in the region to learn information about potential partners, and investment chances in Vietnam and Hanoi in particular, Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Pham Gia Khiem said at the opening ceremony.

A ceremony of awarding outstanding ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) businesspeople in the forum’s framework, is scheduled to take place Monday evening to honour those who make great contribution to their countries and the block.

The forum is attended by over 1,000 delegates from the region, including Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, and international organizations in Vietnam.

Hungarians protest planned NATO radar facility

BUDAPEST, 15 Oct—About 1,000 to 1,500 demonstrators rallied in Pecs, southwest Hungary, on Saturday, to protest plans to build a NATO radar facility on nearby Tubes Hill, according to local media.

Organized by two local groups, activists from Greenpeace and the Humanist Movement also joined the protest, arguing that they do not want a radar station so close to the city. They also voiced their opposition to all wars and military conflicts throughout the world.

Csilla Vicze, spokesperson for the CMM, one of the local civil groups, said they had submitted a request for injunctive relief to a Budapest court, asking it to suspend the Defence Ministry’s building permit and force the ministry to resubmit the applications. The court has not yet acted on that submission, she said.

Vicze said she had recently received a letter from the Health Minister accusing her of panic mongering.

Pelosi says Congress approval needed for US attack on Iran

WASHINGTON, 15 Oct—President George W Bush must seek congressional approval before taking any military action in Iran, unless Teheran attacks the United States first, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said on Sunday.

“We don’t believe that any authorities that the President has would give him the ability to go in without an act of Congress,” Pelosi told ABC’s “This Week” program.

“No president, if we are attacked, if our country is attacked has—ever under the War Powers Act—very strong powers to go after that country. But short of that, he must come to the Congress,” said the top Democrat in the House of Representatives.

Pelosi said Bush had not requested any congressional authority to take military action in Iran, despite growing US concern over Iran’s nuclear ambitions and its support for militant groups in Lebanon and Gaza.

Republican presidential candidates last week said it may be necessary to attack Iran’s nuclear facilities to prevent it from developing a bomb, but they were cautious about a preemptive strike, saying Congress should be consulted first.

Iran denies trying to build a nuclear weapon, but the United States, France, Britain and other countries fear Iran’s stated pursuit of nuclear-generated electricity is a precursor to learning how to build atom bombs.

Bush this month said the United States was working to resolve the nuclear standoff with Iran diplomatically but was keeping all its options open.

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice last week said Washington was considering sanctions against the Qods force, the elite unit of Iran’s Revolutionary Guard, which it accuses of inciting violence against US troops in Iraq.

“Washington Post” correspondent killed in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 15 Oct—A Washington Post correspondent in Iraq was shot and killed on Sunday while on assignment in the Baghdad neighbourhood of Sadiyah, the newspaper said on its Web site.

Salih Saif Aldin, 32, joined the paper in his hometown of Tikrit in early 2004. He later moved to Baghdad, where he played a key role in the Post’s coverage of Iraq.

Details of the incident were still unclear, the Post said. Saif Aldin was the first Post reporter to be killed during the Iraq war, the newspaper said.

“Salih’s death reminds us once again of the central role that Iraqi journalists and others have played in our coverage of the war and the immense sacrifices they have made to help us understand it,” said David Hoffman, the Post’s assistant managing editor for foreign news.

Newly crowned Miss International Priscilla Perales (C) of Mexico is all smiles during the final of the 47th Miss International Beauty Pageant held in Tokyo on 15 Oct. — INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

A set of four porcelain vases are painted with old famous Chinese poems and sayings alongside the four kinds of plants, together with Fuwa, the mascots of the Beijing Olympic Games. — INTERNET
Brown under pressure as polls turn against him

LONDON, 15 Oct—British Prime Minister Gordon Brown came under pressure to set out a clear vision of where he wants to take Britain on Sunday after a poll showed opposition Conservatives enjoying their strongest support for 15 years.

The poll giving the Conservatives a 7-point lead over Brown’s Labour Party capped a bruising week for Brown in which he was pilloried for a U-turn over an early election and accused by the Conservatives of stealing their policies.

Brown enjoyed a honeymoon with voters during his first 100 days after taking over from Tony Blair but his comfortable 11-point poll lead has been wiped out.

The latest ICM poll for the Sunday Telegraph showed the Conservatives on 43 per cent with Labour trailing on 36.

The setbacks for Brown have sparked criticism that he lacks what former US President George Bush famously referred to as “the vision thing”.

“The key challenge for us — and Gordon has rightly identified this — it’s a vision thing,” business minister John Hutton told the BBC on Sunday.

“What we have got to do now is set out our vision for the next 10 years.”

Former cabinet member and Blair ally Lord Falconer said Labour, in power for the last decade, had to make clear its vision for Britain.

“Because if we rely on experience and our ability to handle crises and do not set out, in the coming months, our vision for the future of the UK ... then we will be offering drift not leadership,” he wrote in The Sunday Times.

US bill on Armenians to worsen Turkey-US ties

ANKARA, 15 Oct—Turkey’s General Staff Chief has warned that the passage of a US bill, which recognizes killing of Armenians, will damage Turkey’s military relations with the US.

The bill labelling the killings as a genocide, will damage Turkey’s important ally of Turkey, United States is an ally of Turkey, Chief has warned that the passage of the bill, the committee gave its nod to the bill.

The passage of the bill by the committee has already drawn Turkish Government’s condemnation, though it would have no binding effect on the US foreign policy. Although the US leadership has warned against passage of the bill, the committee gave its nod to the bill.

Aftershocks follow magnitude 6.8 NZ quake

Wellington, 16 Oct — Aftershocks rattled New Zealand’s South Island on Tuesday up to 10 hours after a magnitude 6.8 earthquake struck the area, New Zealand seismologists said.

Six aftershocks, the strongest measuring 6.2 on the Richter Scale, followed the original shake, which was centred 60 kilometres (38 miles) west of the isolated tourist settlement of Milford Sound, off the south-west coast of the South Island. The first quake was at a depth of 24 kilometres, but was felt widely throughout the bottom half of the South Island.

Seismologists said there were reports of some landslides in the remote area, but police said there had been no damage or injuries in populated areas.

The region was expected to continue to feel aftershocks for several weeks after such a large earthquake.

Iran jails journalist on security charge

TEHERAN, 15 Oct—Iran jailed a prominent pro-reform journalist and rights activist, Emadeddin Baghi, on Sunday for acting against national security, a close friend said.

Baghi, the founder of the Society for Defending Prisoners’ Rights, was sent to Teheran’s Evin prison, where many other dissidents are held, Irish Saharkhiz told Reuters.

“Today Baghi was sent to prison from the court for a one-year term of a previously suspended jail sentence,” Saharkhiz said, adding that he was being detained for acting against “national security” and publishing classified documents. Iranian news agencies also quoted Baghi’s lawyer confirming that he had been jailed for violating national security.

A Teheran court found Baghi guilty four years ago of writing critical articles and making speeches about the judiciary’s poor treatment of prisoners and cases of defendants being given inadequate access to lawyers, Saharkhiz said.

In this photo provided by Norwegian Cruise Lines, the Norwegian Sun is shown near Tortola, in the British Virgin Islands. —INTERNET

Aftershocks occur as the earth’s crust adjusts to stresses caused by the main shock.

“Two no aftershock sequences are exactly the same,” said Bryan Field of New Zealand’s Geological and Nuclear Sciences agency in a statement.

New Zealand scientists recorded about 14,000 earthquakes a year, of which about 20 top 5.0 on the Richter Scale.

In this file photo shows passengers walking past a South Korean Air counter at Kimpo airport in Seoul. Seoul’s city government on Sunday threatened to ban thousands of delinquent taxpayers from travelling abroad in a rare campaign to collect nearly 900 million dollars in unpaid taxes, officials said. —INTERNET

MNA/Xinhua

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters
The skylark’s key to success

Once, Lord Buddha expounded a Jataka (one of His past existences) to a great company of members of the Sangha. In the Jataka, the would-be-Buddha was a skylark. He made his nest under a clod of earth in a ploughed field. One day, it left his nest and went around the field in search of food. At the time, an eagle in the sky awaiting its prey swooped down and caught the skylark and flew off. The skylark in the feet of the eagle murmured, “How foolish I am! I failed to respect my parents’ warning that I should search food only in the land of my possession, and I should not go far away from my place. I am unfortunate today. Had I remained in the auspicious land where I was born, the eagle could not have swooped me.”

Hearing the murmur, the eagle said, “Hey, skylark, don’t talk big. I wonder where your parents’ auspicious land is.” “It is the land full of clods of earth” the skylark replied. Being proud of its great strength, the eagle proclaimed, “All right, you can go now. I’m sure you can’t escape from me even though you are in the land you rely on” and released it.

Getting onto the clod of earth, the skylark bravely challenged, “Oh, eagle, come on, I dare you now.”

Stretching its two wings, the eagle swooped down at a great speed toward the challenger. When the eagle was very close to it, the skylark quickly got under the earth clod. Losing control of the speed, the eagle ran into the earth clod in its chest to death.

The Buddha continued to say, “Oh, monks, even an animal can meet its tragic end if it frequents a place of other’s habitat. Without doubt, it can’t face any alien dangers if it remains in its traditional place.

“Monks, you, therefore, should not frequent the habitat of others. If so, any kinds of defilement will not have any chance to deceive and trap you.

“Monks, the places you should not frequent are five kinds of sensual pleasure: sense of visible object, sense of sound, sense of smell, sense of taste and sense of touch.

“Monks, reside in your traditional places. If so, any kinds of defilement will have no chance to deceive and trap you.

“Monks, the traditional places where you should always reside are four kinds of meditation: body, sensation, mind and thought.

The above-mentioned facts are prescribed in Maha Vagga Samyutta Pali, Satipatthana Samyutta Pali, and 550 Duka Nipat Santavavag Sakunaggho Jataka and that means monks should always have mindfulness.

I started to learn the Buddhist scriptures at my old age. As for me, treatises translated from Pali works by learned persons such as Patakat, Maha Buddhavamsa and 550 Buddha past existences are like repositories of religious knowledge.

I have planned to spend the rest of my life beneficially. So, I neither listen to BBC, VOA and RFA nor watch TV.

However much periods have elapsed and there have been many changes in the worldly affairs, the Teachings of the Buddha remain unchanged. So, it is called “Theravada Buddha Sasana”.

Everyone, regardless of race and religious faith, who have ever studied the Teachings of the Buddha as they really are can’t help praising His Omniscience.

So, Nehru was once proud of the Buddha, praising Him as the good son of India. Poet Edward Arnold praised Him as the Light of Asia. Indeed, when the Buddha was alive, various scholars compared the Buddha to the Sun that gives light to the whole world.

The purpose of this article is to enable all members of the Sangha to realize what the Buddha expounded that the said skylark’s attitude is key to success.

The Buddha showed such a great magnitude of compassion toward members of the Sangha who trusted and took refuge in Him that He urged His monk disciples to reside in secluded places. It was very objective that the Buddha gave a sermon that every monk should always reside in the monastery of mindfulness.

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A cow and herds cattle so that the cattle do not go anywhere else. In like manner, members of the Sangha should control their mind through mindfulness so that their mind does not go to any places full of passion.

Considering “Suppatippanna”, one of the Nine Supreme Attributes of members of Religious Order, who always reside in the monastery of mindfulness, the government and the people with generosity offer Rattha Pinda or four kinds of requisites to about 500,000 members of the Sangha residing in Myanmar.

If members of the Sangha had always resided in the monastery of mindfulness and they had not staged protest marches, demanding release of political prisoners, the nation would not have seen any chaos.

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Translation: MS

Kyemon: 14-10-2007
YANGON, 16 Oct — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence had a meeting with industrialists of Hlinethaya and Shwepyitha industrial zones at Hlinethaya Industrial Zone in Hlinethaya Township, Yangon North District, this morning.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe in his speech said that after assuming the State duties, the government introduced the market economy to the nation and established industrial zones and industries. Now, the zones are making progress. Industries lie at the core of the economic growth of Yangon Division, an economic and commercial hub of the nation. So, the government is now rendering assistance for ensuring smooth process of work in the region.

He suggested that the industries set up night shifts to boost production and create more job opportunities.

The government wants to see national entrepreneurs enjoy economic growth. He pledged that he would help address difficulties if reported.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win said that he would fulfill the requirements of the industrialists through coordination, calling for cooperation and coordination for achieving the economic objectives set for Yangon Division.

Yangon City Development Committee Chairman Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein presented works to be done for helping achieve industrial development.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe fulfilled the requirements and gave concluding remarks. — MNA

Australian woman fights off Great White Shark

SYDNEY, 15 Oct — An Australian woman fought off a Great White Shark on Monday after it knocked her into the water from her surf ski at a popular tourist beach, police said.

The woman fended off the 2.5-metre (eight-foot) shark, suffering lacerations to her right arm, before scrambling back onto her surf ski and paddling to shore. “A 52-year-old local woman was taken to hospital,” police said.

Miss Lebanon Nancy Afiouny (R) smiles as she is crowned Miss Intercontinental 2007 by last year’s winner Katarina Monava of Slovakia at the end of the beauty pageant held on Mahe Island on 13 Oct, 2007. — XINHUA

Home spray cleaners could lead to asthma

LOS ANGELES, 15 Oct — The use of spray cleaners as little as once a week increased the risk of developing asthma by nearly 50 percent, a new study found.

But whether or not the cleaning products are a direct cause of asthma, or simply a trigger for people who already have the disease, is not clear from this epidemiological study, which was published in the October issue of the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine.

Researchers, however, believe that spray cleaners can be a cause of new-onset asthma, because the people included in this study did not have asthma or asthma symptoms at the start of the study. “Cleaning sprays, especially air fresheners, furniture cleaners and glass cleaners, had a particularly strong effect.

The risk of developing asthma increased with the frequency of cleaning and number of different sprays used, but on average was 30 to 50 percent higher in people regularly exposed to cleaning sprays than in others,” said the study’s lead author, Jan-Paul Zock, a research fellow at the Centre for Research in Environmental Epidemiology at the Municipal Institute of Medical Research in Barcelona, Spain. The most important thing consumers need to know, cautioned Zock, is that “cleaning sprays — for sale in all super-markets — are not harmless, and their use may involve serious health risks.” Previous research has found an association between asthma and being employed as a professional cleaner. Other studies have also noted a link between respiratory symptoms and certain cleaning products, but Zock and his colleagues wanted to learn if typical household exposures to cleaning products would have any effect on the development of asthma. — Internet
Objectives of the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

- To vitalize patriotism and nationalism that is based on strong Union Spirit,
- To ensure uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and integrity,
- To ensure flourishing of Myanmar music, dance and traditional fine arts,
- To nurture spiritual development of the youths,
- To prevent the influence of alien culture.

Acting Prime Minister Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein greets judges and managers and contestants of cultural troupes from states and divisions. — MNA

Acting Prime Minister and Secretary-1 ...

Vice-Presidents of MWAF Daw Khin Lay Myint and Daw Khin Thet Huey receive Mrs Isabelle Bouan, Chief of Mission of IOM mission in Myanmar. — MNA

Four civilians killed in Baghdad car bombing

Baghdad, 15 Oct — Four civilians were killed and eight others were wounded when a car bomb detonated in a pre-dominated Shiite district in northern Baghdad on Sunday, an Interior Ministry source said.

“An IED killed four civilians and wounded eight others,” the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The attack came as the Iraqi Shiite Muslims are celebrating the second day of the Islamic festival of Eid al-Fitr, which marks the end of the holy fasting month of Ramadan.

MNA/Xinhua
Mass rally to support National Convention, forthcoming constitution held in Mandalay

Nay Pyi Taw, 16 Oct— Townselders from Mandalay organized mass rally to support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution on 14 October at Bahtoo Sports Ground in Mandalay.

The mass rally was attended by over 138,000 people including townselders, departmental personnel, members of social organizations, industrialists, teachers and students of Mandalay Technology Training College in Amarapura, Mandalay Education College and Mandalay Sports and Physical Education Institute, delegates to the National Convention from Mandalay Division, those who resigned from NLD nurses, members of Red Cross and Fire Brigade and locals.

Before the ceremony, Mandalay District column, Kyaukse District column, PyinOoLwin District column, Myingyan District column, NyaungU District column, Mekila District column, Yamethin District column and Nay Pyi Taw Pymmana District column marched towards Bahtoo Sports Ground and took their places.

Patron of Myanmar Medical Association (Mandalay) Eye Specialist Professor Dr Ko Lay presided over the mass rally.

Mi Mi Lay and member of Mandalay Division War Veterans Organization Lt Col Myint Thein (Retd) as member of the panel of chairmen. Executive Daw Kay Khai Soe of Mandalay Division Shanayethein Township USDA and Executive Daw Aye Aye Aung of Maha Aungmye Township USDA acted as master of ceremonies and co-MC. First, those present saluted the State Flag.

In his address, Professor Dr Ko Lay said:

People including townselders, service personnel, members of social organizations, businessmen, teachers and students, delegates to the National Convention, nurses, members of Red Cross and Fire Brigade marching to the ceremony to support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution. — MNA

Those present here are the ones who do not want unrest but want peace and stability, who do not want to let development damaged and who want to see the realization of the seven-step Road Map.

The Tatmadaw has been striving to lay good foundations in political, economic and social sectors. Moreover, in accord with the desire of the entire people, a peaceful, modern and developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation is being built. It is known to all that, although the Tatmadaw had to take the responsibility of the State unavoidably, it is trying to hand over the state power to the people smoothly.

To implement the task, efforts are being made systematically for the emergence of the constitution. Every independent nation in the world has constitution and it is the lifeblood of a nation and the people.

Fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down at the National Convention guarantee the sharing of sovereign power of the Union of Myanmar, perpetuation of the Union and fundamental rights of the citizens. The constitution based on these principles will soon emerge. And a peaceful, modern and developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, the national goal of the entire people, will surely emerge.

(See page 9)
Mass rally to support National Convention, ...

(from page 8)

People are now waiting to adopt the constitution. We all accept the fact that emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar. In conclusion, I would like to urge all the people of Mandalay to support the National Convention and make strenuous efforts of the parts of the country due to the fact that emergence of Myanmar's internal affairs and foreign broadcasting stations which invent fabricated news.

Next, Secretary of Mandalay District USDA, — MNA

Prof Dr Ko Lay, Patron of Myanmar Medical Association (Mandalay), — MNA

The entire mass of people are Buddhists and are magnanimously handled the unrest in September and it shows that the Tatmadaw magnanimously handled the situation.

Nowadays, people all over the country unanimously support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution. Likewise, people from 8 districts and 31 townships in Mandalay Division unanimously support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution and denounce the acts of foreign powerful countries which meddle in Myanmar's internal affairs and foreign broadcasting stations which invent fabricated news.

Next, Secretary of Mandalay Women's Affairs Organization Daw Khin Thaung Hnin, — MNA

Mandalay Women's Affairs Organization Daw Khin Thaung Hnin seconded the motion to support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution and condemn the instigation and fabrications of some super powers and foreign radio stations. She said that fundamental principles and detailed basic principles cover the life security of women as well as the fact that there is no racial discrimination, gender discrimination and religious discrimination.

Women play an important role in building a peaceful modern and developed nation as they constitute half the population of Myanmar. At present, with the emergence of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation all the women are able to take part in nation-building endeavours like men in addition to enjoying the right of life security. It is a golden opportunity for the women that the woman delegates have the right to attend the National Convention and hold discussions on equal terms with men.

The entire mass of women will protect and safeguard races, religion, literature, culture and tradition in line with the constitution soon to emerge. At present, efforts are being made for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democratic nation aspiring by the people and the constitution to be in conformity with the principles laid down by the National Convention. At such a time, some big nations and anti-government groups are jealous of the completion of the National Convention and made attempts to tarnish the image of the nation resorting to various ways.

Most of Myanmar people are Buddhists and Buddhism is flourishing in the nation. It is known to all parts of the country like those in Mandalay. — MNA

U Ko Ko Oo of Mandalay Industrial Zone, — MNA

Most of Myanmar people were dissatisfied with the forthcoming constitution as it will not serve their interest. As such, they are attempting to meddle Myanmar's internal affairs employing their broadcasting stations such as VOA, BBC, RFA and DVB. We women are committed to deploring and condemning the attacks and attempts to drive a wedge among the people. The mass of women are to guard against the dangers of internal and external destructive elements that are harming the emergence of the new constitution. In that regard, we women second the motion of supporting the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution and condemn the acts and instigation of destructive elements and foreign radio stations.

Daw Mya Kay Thwe, member of Mahanaungmye Township MCWA, — MNA

U Chit Tun, a townswelder of Mandalay, — MNA

We the entire Myanmar people are pleased with the successful completion of the National Convention. At such a time like this a group that is meddles is the party has a strong dislike to the drafting of the new constitution. That was why they incite the people to take to the street and create violent unrest in the name of religion while resorting to VOA, BBC, RFA and DVB as a tool. But those who took to the street are
Mass rally to support National Convention, …

(from page 9)

just a handful of people. The number of monks who got involved in the unrest is insignificant. Due to the violent disturbance the people who favour peace and stability have to live in constant fear and found it difficult in their daily life.

It is obvious that those who created such incident made use of the innocent people and provided the latter with money in order to get the people into trouble and the nation into abyss. The mass rallies being held across the nation proved the united strength of the people who are dissatisfied with the violent unrest and the incitement of foreign nations. The entire people are desirous of building a discipline-flourishing democratic nation to be in line with the forthcoming constitution. Therefore, I, on behalf of the people of Mandalay Division, second the motion to support the National Convention and the constitution and condemn the acts of the destructive elements.

Afterwards, Daw Mya Kay Thwe, Member of Mahaungmye Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association seconded the motion in support of the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution and to denounce acts of some big nations who interfere in Myanmar’s affairs and some foreign media who air fabricated news.

She said : The State, the people and the Tatmadaw have been making efforts to build a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation and peace and tranquility have prevailed all over the country and the people have enjoyed the fruits of the development. The National Convention which is the first step of the seven-step Road Map was completed and over 1,000 delegates participated in the constitutional talks and laid down the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles for writing the constitution.

It is not just that some neo-colonialist nations and traitors have made various accusations to harm the national integrity. Turning a blind eye to benefits enjoyed by the people, some Myanmar elements created unrest and violence in accord with the schedule drawn by foreign countries. Neo-colonialists drew the schedule of instigating unrest and violence in Myanmar and VOA, BBC, RFA and DVB aired the fabricated news and incited the internal destructionists and the people to get involved in unrest and violence. They also broadcast only negative side of destructionists and the people to get involved in unrest and violence in Myanmar and VOA, BBC, RFA and DVB.

Neo-colonialists abet unscrupulous persons and incite the national races. As a result, anxiety and concerns appear among the people. Today, the people are waiting for approval of the fundamental principles laid down by the National Convention in accord with the desire of the people. Those who want the people to be poor and to encounter crises persuaded monks to take to the streets and foreign masters fear that the seven-step Road Map will be successful.

All the people in Mandalay Division will safeguard stability and development with Union Spirit and we support the National Convention and forthcoming constitution that will bring about the good future of the State.

I second the motion calling for condemnation of the acts of big nations that interfere in internal affairs of Myanmar and fabricated broadcasts by foreign broadcasting stations.

We favour community peace and stability and development. If the country is at peace, business will be normal and students can receive education peacefily. The people value peace and stability. We cannot accept any external or internal organizations that undermine the national development.

In building a democratic nation, the neo-colonialists abet unscrupulous persons and incite the national races. As a result, anxiety and concerns appear among the people.

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All the people in Mandalay Division will safeguard stability and development with Union Spirit and we support the National Convention and forthcoming constitution that will bring about the good future of the State.

I second the motion calling for condemnation of the acts that interfere in internal affairs of Myanmar and fabricated broadcasts by foreign broadcasting stations.

Chairman Captain Myint Swe (Retd) of the organizing committee of the War Veterans Organization of Mahaungmye Township, Mandalay Division, seconded the motion calling for support the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution.

He said that he condemned the acts of both the nations interfering in Myanmar’s internal affairs and foreign broadcasting stations airing fabricated news. Democracy cannot be copied and it must be shaped based on our cultures, traditions and prevailing conditions. The Tatmadaw government, therefore, based on these characteristics is striving day in, day out for the good sake of the nation and the people. Looking at today’s situation, to achieve the goal of building a genuine democracy is not too distant. It is a pleasure to learn that according to the forthcoming constitution, Tatmadaw members have the right to continue serving national duties. The basic principles to be included in the constitution were drawn after taking lessons from the weaknesses of the previous constitutions and learning some international constitutions. So, all believe that the forthcoming constitution will surely serve the national interest.

Here, shaping a democracy for the emergence of an anti-Tatmadaw government is totally contrary to Myanmar’s historical trend. This is because a so-called leader relying on aliens herself is not a representative elect. In addition, she is not entitled to be a representative-elect. That is why standing by a person who is not entitled to become a leader of elected government is an act of instigation as well as interference in Myanmar’s internal affairs. Recently, some monks and people staged protests in violation of the existing laws. The percentage of the protesters was very little and did not represent the entire people. Moreover, it is regrettable that on 11 October, the UNSC issued the presidential statement regarding the Myanmar affairs. But the people will continue to support and safeguard the constitution that will be drawn in accord with the principles laid down by the NC. All in all, the WVO members fully support the NC and the forthcoming constitution.

Next, the chairman sought the approval of the people for the motion calling for the support of the National Convention and the forthcoming constitution and denounce the acts of foreign powerful countries which meddle in the affairs of Myanmar and foreign broadcasting stations which invented fabricated news. Those present unanimously approved the motion.

The mass rally successfully concluded at 8.10 am chanting slogans.

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Oct—The people of Rathedaung, Rakhine State and Mongpan, Shan State (South) who wish to see stability of the State, the rule of law and community peace and tranquility regarded recent protests instigated by some monks and NLD members as a threat to peace and stability. So they held mass rallies to denounce such protests on 8 and 14 October respectively after seeking permission from the authorities concerned. In Rathedaung, Rakhine State, over 1,000 people walked in procession at 8 am on 8 October shouting slogans calling for ‘We support Our Three Main National Causes’ and ‘the seven-step Road Map must be successful’ and holding placards that read ‘We favour stability and peace’ and ‘We oppose unrest and violence’, ‘Ward off internal and external destructive elements’ and ‘Support the National Convention and the constitution’. —MNA

Local people of Mongpan expressing their resentment to recent protests. —MNA

People of Rakhine State, Shan State (South) denounce recent protests

MNA
Development of towns and villages is one of the programmes for improvement of the quality of life of the people. After 1988, towns and villages have developed as necessary assistance was provided for them. Urban roads and bridges begin to serve as links with those of rural areas. Model villages and new towns have been established. Hut-to-apartment schemes have also been implemented in urban areas.

Arrangements are being made for supply of clean water in villages which are far away from reservoirs and river water pumping projects. Clean water supply projects are being undertaken for villages in the arid zone. Rural roads were upgraded to gravel ones. Basic education schools in villages were upgraded and emphasis was placed on literacy and having schooling for school-age children. Rural health care services are systematically provided and efforts are being made for improvement of rural economy.

Nowadays development activities are being carried out. On 8 February 2007, an X-ray unit was installed at the People’s Hospital in Aphyauk, Taikkyi Township, Yangon North District. New Strand Road in Pathein, Ayeyawady Division was opened on 12 February, Kanchay Road linking Pathein and Ngaputaw Townships on 14 March, Ngwe Hsaung tarred road in Pathetin on 15 March, Pyapon Bridge in Pyapon Township on 20 March, Myingyan-Thabaung tarred road and Thabaung Bridge in Myingyan Township on 20 March, Bago city hall in Bago and Thabyegon Sanpya station hospital in Kawa Township on 23 March, Phatashin Bridge on Pathein-Hinthada-Kyangin Railroad in Ayeyawady Division and Kyaungon-Seikkyi tarred road on 25 March, a tarred road in Taungdwingyi Township on 30 March, Huayhin in Shan State (North) on 16 May, Paingkyon Bridge in Hlaingbowe Township, Kayin State on 1 June, Hangan Bridge in Ye Township in Mon State on 4 June, Salin Bridge in Salin in Magway Division on 6 June and Dunban Bridge on Myitkyina-Tanai-Panshaung Ledo Road in Phakant Township on 18 July.

To sum up the development of towns and villages, there were over 2,900 miles of urban roads in 1988. Now there are 5,600 miles of urban roads. There was no urban bridge then and there are now over 10,000 bridges. Water supply projects have been implemented in 179 townships out of 283 in 1988. There were over 3,900 miles of rural roads in 1988. Now 29,000 miles of rural roads have been built. There was no rural bridge in 1988. Now there are 7,600 bridges. In the past rural water supply projects could not be implemented effectively. Now 25,000 projects have been implemented. There was no rural housing project. Over 2,600 rural houses were built.

These are the government’s measures for improvement of urban and rural living standard to see that urban and rural areas possess their respective characteristics.

Translation: NY
Myanma Alin 15-10-2007
22 gold prospectors dead in Colombian landslide

BOGOTA, 15 Oct—Twenty Colombian gold prospectors, most of them women, died in a landslide that swamped their makeshift mine in the impoverished southwestern part of the country, a Red Cross spokesman said on Sunday. Sixteen women were among those killed in Saturday’s disaster at the Suarez Gold Mine, Colombian Red Cross spokesman Carlos Marquez told Reuters. “All the victims were from Suarez who worked, informally, in the mine,” Marquez said. “This is a region where there are a lot of single mothers and their only source of work is the mine.”— MNA/Reuters

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT MYANMAR PORT AUTHORITY

INVITATION TO QUOTATION

Sealed quotations are invited by the Myanmar Port Authority, for the supply of the following items:

(1) Marine Radar
(2) SWL 15 Ton Rail Chain
(3) Spreader Frame Extension Chain (SWL37 T)
(4) Spare for Cargo Handling Equipment

Quotation Closing date/ time 15.11.2007 (Thursday)

DRIVE WITH CARE
Heilongjiang opens sea route through Russian port

HARBIN, 14 Oct — China has officially opened a sea route linking its landlocked northeastern province of Heilongjiang with its eastern coastal hub of Shanghai after it reached an agreement with Russia to use its port of Vladivostok.

The route through the Sea of Japan has been in trial operation since March and received final approval from China Customs. The first shipment — 261 tons of paper — has reached Shanghai after starting from China’s border city of Suifenhe in Heilongjiang and being transported via Vladivostok.

The shipment cost was 10 per cent less than it would have cost to transport it by land, said Zhang Yonglin, an official with the Suifenhe Port Commission.

China is also involved in discussions with Russia and Japan to establish a cargo route between Heilongjiang and Japan’s port of Niigata, which would halve the distance and shipment time. China’s plan to revitalize its northeast industrial base bordering Russia and the Korean Peninsula has helped create a speedy transportation channel to the Sea of Japan. Inland provinces, including Heilongjiang, Jilin and Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, are expected to benefit from the new sea outlet.

China’s current education system should be reformed to reduce the occurrence of nearsightedness among our children, says an article in Modern Life Daily recently. The most important measure to prevent myopia is to protect the eyes of children at an early age.—XINHUA

Tunisia floods kill eight, eight more missing

TUNIS, 15 Oct — Flooding caused by torrential rains killed at least eight people outside the Tunisian capital on Saturday, the country’s official news agency TAP said on Sunday.

Eight more people were still missing after the floods swept away cars near Sabbelet Ben Ammar Village, around 15 kilometres (nine miles) north of Tunis.

Forecasters said they expected more rain after downpours lashed northern and eastern Tunisia, blocking train traffic, cutting roads and threatening homes with flooding in several areas outside the capital.

Greenpeace finds hazardous materials in Apple’s iPhone

BEIJING, 16 Oct — Environmental group Greenpeace commissioned tests on Apple’s iPhone to measure both internal and external components and found hazardous materials in the cell phone, media reported Tuesday.

According to Greenpeace the tests revealed chemicals that included “phthalates” in the vinyl plastic earphone wiring at levels that are prohibited in young children’s toys in San Francisco and the European Union (EU).

The tests also found brominated compounds in half the samples, which can create dioxin when burned. The compounds comprised 10 percent of the total weight of the flexible circuit board in the iPhone, the group said.

Greenpeace also said the battery in the iPhone was glued and soldered to the handset. This will make battery replacement difficult for consumers and further undermine recycling of the iPhone when it is discarded, the group said.

“Apart from the chemical hazards, Apple missed a key opportunity when it rolled out the iPhone in June,” said Rick Hind of Greenpeace. “There is no reason why the iPhone could not have been made without toxins like vinyl plastics and brominated flame retardants as Nokia is already doing.”

Exercise boosts chemotherapy for breast cancer patients

BEIJING, 16 Oct — Aerobic or exercise programme can boost physical fitness and chemotherapy completion rates for women undergoing chemo for breast cancer, according to Canadian researchers quoted by media reports Tuesday.

“Breast cancer chemotherapy may cause unfavourable changes in physical functioning, body composition, psychosocial functioning, and quality of life,” said Dr Kerry S Courneya and his colleagues of the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

The researchers examined the possible beneficial effects of aerobic and resistance exercise on the changes in a study involving 242 breast cancer patients beginning chemotherapy.

Compared to usual care, aerobic exercise was significantly better in improving patients’ aerobic fitness and percent body fat. Resistance exercise was also superior to usual care for improving lower and upper body strength, lean body mass, and chemotherapy completion rates. The researchers found exercise can also improve the self-esteem of the involved women. However, neither type of exercise significantly improved any cancer-related quality-of-life measures such as fatigue, depression, or anxiety. —Internet

Indian railways mulls hiring ex-military men for security

NEW DELHI, 14 Oct — A top Indian railways official Saturday said a proposal was under consideration to hire former Army personnel to meet huge safety requirements in a variety of railway facilities.

M K Sinha, director general of the country’s railway protection force (RPF), said former defence personnel could be employed for what he called its non-core areas like hospitals, residential facilities, institutions and offices.

“With the heightened security threat perception, we need to strengthen our deployment in railway stations and trains. —MNA/Xinhua

A car navigates Menzah street during torrential rains in Tunis. At least nine people died and eight others went missing on Saturday in torrential rains that caused serious damage in and around the Tunisian capital, national radio reported. —INTERNET

A suicide fuel tanker bomb went off near a police headquarters in central Samarra in Salahadin Province on 13 Oct, 2007, killing at least eight people and wounding some 40 others, a provincial police source said on 15 Oct 2007. —XINHUA

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A suicide fuel tanker bomb went off near a police headquarters in central Samarra in Salahadin Province on 13 Oct, 2007, killing at least eight people and wounding some 40 others, a provincial police source said on 15 Oct 2007. —XINHUA

A suicide fuel tanker bomb went off near a police headquarters in central Samarra in Salahadin Province on 13 Oct, 2007, killing at least eight people and wounding some 40 others, a provincial police source said on 15 Oct 2007. —XINHUA
President says China must host good Games

BEIJING, 16 Oct — A measure of the importance China attaches to hosting a successful Olympic Games came when it merited a mention in President Hu Jintao’s keynote speech to the 17th Congress of the Chinese Communist Party on Monday.

China has invested a great deal of prestige in next year’s Beijing Olympics and many see the sporting spectacle as a coming out party, an exhibition of the country’s “soft power” to complement its huge economic growth.

“We must organize the 2008 Olympic Games, Paralympic Games and 2010 World Expo well,” Hu said in his keynote speech to the biggest meeting of the ruling Party in five years.

Many analysts predict that China will seal its rise to superpower status in sport by topping the medals table at the Games next August.

China is, however, hoping that the Olympic legacy will go beyond the 23,000 elite athletes to encourage the growth of sport among the remainder of the 1.3 billion population. This ambition also drew a comment from Hu.

“We must comprehensively develop mass participation of sports among the people,” he added.

The Beijing Olympics has almost universal support from the Chinese people and preparations have drawn little but praise from International Olympic Committee (IOC) officials during their frequent visits to the Chinese capital. Managing China’s booming economy was one of the main themes of Hu’s speech and it is a by-product of that growth, namelypollution, that continues to be the major obstacle to hosting a good Games.

IOC president Jacques Rogge said in August that some endurance events may have to be postponed if the air quality in Beijing is not good enough. “We still need to exert more effort (treating air pollution) for the Olympics, as well as to make the capital a more liveable city,” Beijing Communist Party chief and BOCOG president Liu Qi said on the sidelines of the Congress.

MNA/Reuters

Shevchenko wants Ukraine coach Blokhin to stay

KIEV, 16 Oct — Ukraine striker Andriy Shevchenko said he wanted national coach Oleg Blokhin to stay on despite his pledge to quit if Ukraine failed to make it into the Euro 2008 finals, local media reported on Monday.

Shevchenko, quoted by Sport Express newspaper, said the team’s coaches were not wholly to blame for Ukraine’s failure to qualify for next year’s finals, which was sealed with Saturday’s 3-1 defeat to Scotland at Hampden.

“Would not like the coaching staff to be seen as the main guilty party,” the Chelsea striker told the newspaper.

“We got into the World Cup finals and did well and got off to a good start in the European qualifiers. Something happened in the last few months. “Let’s make it clear that Blokhin is behind the brightest spots in the history of Ukrainian soccer, things never seen before. I would like him to stay on as national coach.”

Blokhin, European player of the year in 1975 and revered as a sporting hero in Ukraine, has coached the national team since 2003.

Last week, in the run-up to the Scotland match, he said he would quit if the side, by then facing long odds, did not make it to the finals. But after the match in Glasgow, he appeared to go back on his threat.—MNA/Reuters

Beckenbauer hails Germany as best team in Europe

BERLIN, 16 Oct — Germany have the best team in Europe and have improved considerably since the World Cup while Italy, France and England have fallen behind, former coach and captain Franz Beckenbauer said on Monday.

In an interview on the German federation’s Web site (www.dfb.de), Beckenbauer said coach Joachim Loew had done a great job since taking over from Juergen Klinsmann 15 months ago and said they were among the favourites to win Euro 2008.

Unbeaten in their Euro 2008 qualifiers, Germany were the first team to earn a spot in the finals with a 0-0 draw against Ireland on Saturday.

“Germany are the best and most consistent team in Europe right now,” said the 62-year-old Beckenbauer ahead of Wednesday’s match against the Czech Republic in Munich. In the past, he was often among the team’s most vocal critics.

“They’ve kept a high level since the World Cup and have even improved upon it. Other top teams like Italy, France or England have let up and are having a lot of problems even qualifying,” he said, adding he believed they would nevertheless qualify.

Beckenbauer, who won the World Cup as West Germany captain in 1974 and coach in 1990, said he hoped Loew would extend his two-year contract soon. Germany have won 12 of 15 matches under Loew with two draws and one defeat — in a friendly against Denmark.

MNA/Reuters

China’s Li Shixin (C) attends the awarding ceremony for the men’s 1m springboard final at the 4th CISM Military World Games in Hyderabad, capital of southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, on 15 Oct, 2007. Li claimed the title.—INTERNET
China to modernize Army for self-defence, world peace

BEIJING, 16 Oct — With the completion of reducing 200,000 troops, China is to speed up the pace of modernizing its armed forces in the next five years and more, for self-defence and maintaining world peace.

Hu Jintao made the remarks on behalf of the 16th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) in a keynote speech at the 17th CPC National Congress on Monday.

Hu said, “We must implement the military strategy for the new period, accelerate the revolution in military affairs with Chinese characteristics, ensure military preparedness, and enhance the military’s capability to respond to various security threats and accomplish diverse military tasks. “We are determined to safeguard China’s sovereignty, security and territorial integrity and make contributions to maintaining world peace,” Hu pledged.

“Heart in mind the overall strategic interests of national security and development, we must take both economic development and national defence into consideration and make our country prosperous and our armed forces powerful while building a moderately prosperous society in all respects,” Hu said.

Hu stressed that China must always adhere to “the fundamental principle of the Party exercising absolute leadership over the armed forces and the fundamental purpose of the armed forces serving the people”.

To attain the strategic objective of building computerized armed forces and winning IT-based warfare, Hu said China will accelerate the composite development of mechanization and computerization, carry out military training under IT-based conditions, intensify our efforts to train a new type of high-calibre military personnel in large numbers and change the mode of generating combat capabilities.

China will “enhance our capacity for independent innovation in R&D of weapons and equipment with better quality and cost-effectiveness,” he said.

The New Light of Myanmar Wednesday, 17 October, 2007

Weather

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, Ayeyawady Division, scattered in Shan State and Bago Division, fairly widespread in Rakhine State, Mandalay and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with locally heavyfall in lower Sagaing Division and isolated heavyfall in Magway Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Myinmu (2.17) inches, Ainglan (1.36) inches, Myeky (1.69) inches, Sagaing (1.65) inches, Maungtaw (1.46) inches, Homalin (1.38) inches, Shwebo (1.26) inches, Kyunzake (1.05) inches and Mandalay (0.94) inch.

Maximum temperatures on 15-10-2007 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 16-10-2007 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 16-10-2007 was 82%. Total sunshine hours on 15-10-2007 was (5.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 16-10-2007 was (0.08) inch at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1 2007 was (134.86) inches at Mingaladon, (139.92) inches at Kaba-Aye and (142.56) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from East (12:30) hours MST on 15-10-2007.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 17-10-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Kachin, Chin States and Sagaing Division, fairly widespread in Rakhine State, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Tamanthi Divisions, scattered in Shan State, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions with likelihood of isolated heavyfall in Kayin State and upper Sagaing Division.

Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of likelihood of decrease of rain in Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 17-10-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-10-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (50%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-10-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (20%).

WEATHER

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring areas
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 trouble-makers