Established 1914

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

Four political objectives

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

Four economic objectives

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

Four social objectives

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

Four social objectives

* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

National Immunization Days (2007) launched

Priority given to total elimination of polio that affects children

Disease control measures being taken as national task

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo addresses ceremony to launch National Immunization Days (2007).—MNA

NAV Pyi Taw, 3 Nov—The National Immunization Days (2007) was launched at a ceremony at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Health here this morning with an address by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo.

Also present on the occasion were Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, the ministers, the deputy ministers, members of the National Health Committee, the Director-General of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department, Japanese Ambassador Mr Yasuaki Nogawa and embassy staff, officials from WHO and UNICEF, vice-presidents of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federations and executives, those from the Ministry of Health, social organizations from Nay Pyi Taw Pyinnmana District and Nay Pyi Taw Pyinnmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township and Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township, members of Red Cross and Fire Brigades, guests and others.

(See page 6)

Dagon Bridge improving industrial and economic sectors

The government spent more than 20,000 million kyats on the reinforced-concrete type bridge with a six-lane motorway on it. The Ministry of Construction is building many bridges, large and small, for the convenience of the people to travel from one place to another in accordance with the motto “Build roads and bridges to enhance friendship among national races”.

The infrastructures including the transport ones reflect the efforts the government is making for equitable development of all parts of the Union.

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY THAUNG WIN BO

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Harvesting and winning of monsoon paddy demonstrated

YANGON, 3 Nov—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win attended ceremonies to demonstrate the harvesting of monsoon paddy and to cultivate cold season crops and edible oil crops under mixed cropping system at the 6-acre plantation of farmer U Zaw Naing in Thayatheikwin Village-tract of Thanlwin Township on 1 November.

Thanlwin Township PDC Chairman U Tin Htay and Head of Yangon Division Agricultural Mechanization Department U Zaw Khin reported to the commander on the harvesting of monsoon paddy and plans to cultivate cold season crops in the township.

Next, the commander gave necessary instructions.

Later, the commander viewed cultivation of sunflower in green gram plantations, harvesting and winning of paddy and use of natural fertilizers.

In Thanlwin Township, over 61,900 acres of monsoon paddy have been planted and 17,794 acres harvested. A total of 42,254 acres of land has been put under beans and pulses and 6,123 acres under edible oil crops.

MNA

Sermons delivered to mark end of Buddhist Lent

YANGON, 3 Nov—A ceremony to mark the conclusion of delivering sermons during the Buddhist Lent was held at Sasana Linyaungchi Dhammayon in North Okkalapa Township on 26 October (Full Moon Day of Thadingyut).

Sayadaws delivered sermons on every Sabbath Day during the Buddhist Lent at the Dhammayon and the last sermon was delivered on 26 October by Sayadaw of Myanmar Budh Gaya Monastery Dr Ashin Sundara. The congregation shared merits gained on the occasion.

Those who delivered sermons during the Buddhist Lent at the Dhammayon were Sayadaw Dr Ashin Paññavamsa, Sayadaw Dr Ashin Viccitta, Sayadaw Dr Ashin Carittasiri, Sayadaw Dr Ashin Vannasiri, Sayadaw Dr Ashin Paññananda, Sayadaw Dr Ashin Sopaka, Sayadaw Dr Ashin Nanagga, Sayadaw Dr Ashin Indaka and Sayadaw Dr Ashin Khemasiri.

MNA

Scientists discover deepwater coral clusters

CANBERRA, 3 Nov—A group of Australian marine scientists said that they have found large coral clusters in deep cool waters for the first time off the coastline of the state of Queensland, according to local media Thursday. The group recently returned from an expedition examining fossil reefs on the outer Great Barrier Reef off Cairns, a major resort city of Queensland. Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio Thursday quoted Rob Beaman from James Cook University as saying that he was surprised to find corals living on large hills that were more than a kilometre underwater.

He said the scientists have named the clusters the Gloria Mounds. “Gloria’s not the name of an old girl friend, it’s actually the side scan sonar that were originally used to find these things,” he said, adding “it gave use some images of the seabed that allowed us to pin-point exactly where to go. Gloria stands for Geological Long Range Inclined Asdic.” — MNA/Xinhua

Myanmar wins prizes for best pavilion

YANGON, 3 Nov—The Union of Myanmar won the prize for the best pavilion and the prize for innovative pavilion at the China+ASEAN Economic and Investment Summit and the 4th China+ASEAN Trade Fair 2007 held in Nanning City of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China recently.

A total of 132 pavilions were displayed at the Trade Fair under the arrangements of Ministry of Commerce and Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The team led by Vice-President of UMFCCI U Win Aung arrived back here by air on 1 November, and they were welcomed back by UMFCCI President U Myint and departmental officials. — MNA
Japanese DM orders withdrawal of MSDF from Indian Ocean

TOKYO, 2 Nov — Japanese Defence Minister Shigeru Ishiba issued a command Thursday afternoon to withdraw the Maritime Self-Defence Force (MSDF), which has been undertaking the refuelling mission for the US-led military operation in and around Afghanistan, from the Indian Ocean.

According to Japan’s major NHK TV station, the MSDF supply ship Tokiwa and destroyer Kirisame will set out their journey back home on Thursday midnight of Japanese time (07:00 pm local time) following the Defence Minister’s command at 03:00 pm.

Ishiba’s command by telegraph was first issued to the MSDF’s warship vessels headquarters which is located in Kanagawa Prefecture south of Tokyo, and the headquarters then delivered the order to the fleet in the Indian Ocean. Japan Press said, adding that the two ships are to arrive at their bases in Japan in three weeks.

The issuance of the order is in accordance with the special antiterrorism measures law.

The departure of the MSDF vessels marked the end or suspension of the Japanese Armed Forces’ first post-war overseas mission, which started in December 2001.

According to Japan’s official statistics, the MSDF has provided more than 484,000 kilolitres of oil to vessels from 11 countries in 794 missions.

Panel links poor US Army contract system to fraud

WASHINGTON, 2 Nov— An independent panel on Thursday called for an overhaul of the US Army’s military contracting operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, saying systemic problems such as a lack of oversight had contributed to fraud.

“This is a systemic issue within the Army and within the DoD (Department of Defence),” said Jacques Gansler, former under-secretary of defence for acquisitions and chairman of the commission that studied the problem.

“It usually takes a crisis to make change. We have a crisis, we can make those changes,” he told reporters.

The group, appointed by the Army in August, highlighted problems in the Army’s management of contracts that help supply and support troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Those ranged from too few personnel to manage contracts to poor training and little oversight.

Defence Secretary Robert Gates said he was “dismayed by a lot of the findings” in the report but encouraged by the group’s suggested improvements.

The panel found the number of personnel responsible for managing contracts in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan dropped as the number of contracts and their dollar value soared over 12 years.

Younger confesses to starting California fire

LOS ANGELES, 2 Nov — A boy playing with matches has confessed to starting a wildfire that destroyed 63 structures near Los Angeles, officials said on Tuesday.

The unidentified youngster, believed to be a preteen, was questioned by Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department investigators on 22 October, a day after the Buckweed fire started rampaging across 38,000 acres (15,000 hectares) in the Santa Clarita area, 30 miles (50 kilometres) north of downtown Los Angeles.

The boy “admitted that he had been playing with matches”, said sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore.

It was initially believed that downed power lines had started the fire.

The boy was sent home after confessing, and the District Attorney's office will consider whether to Press charges.

The Buckweed fire was one of about two-dozen conflagrations that ravaged southern California last week, destroying 2,300 buildings, according to the California Office of Emergency Services.

The fires have been responsible for 12 deaths and 78 injuries.

Czech Deputy PM Cunek quits, coalition stays

PRAGUE, 2 Nov — Czech Deputy Prime Minister Jiri Cunek, facing investigation over corruption allegations, announced his resignation from government on Thursday, but the ruling three-party coalition remained intact.

Cunek, the leader of the junior government partner, the centrist Christian Democrats (KDU-CSL), said he would quit next week in order to let the investigation proceed without the perception of interference.

He has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing.

“I decided, in order for this investigation to be independent in the eyes of the public, to resign at Wednesday’s (November 7) government meeting,” Cunek told a news conference. “I am making this decision not only because of this point, but also because I want this coalition to continue, to hold on, for it to avoid constant questioning,” he added.

20 suspected paedophiles arrested in France

PARIS, 2 Nov — A total of 20 people have been arrested in France as suspected paedophiles after the European Union (EU) launched a massive crackdown on the criminal group on Monday.

French police said on Wednesday that three allegedly molested children during trips abroad, and another three were believed to have filmed children porn scenes abroad. Police also seized about 1.5 million illegal images from one suspect’s computer.

The European-wide raid, codenamed “Koala”, followed traces discovered in an operation on suspected child molesters in Australia in 2006, during which police found some 3,000 suspicious e-mail addresses.

Floods in Mexico affect 700,000 people

MEXICO CITY, 2 Nov — Floods caused by heavy rain last week have affected 700,000 people in southeastern Mexico, officials said on Thursday.

Andres Granier, Governor of Tabasco State, said nearly half of the affected people were trapped in the floods, waiting for help on rooftops or in other safer places.

“Many shelters had to be evacuated because they were flooding. Hotels are overloaded, and streets are useless and dangerous,” he said.

Local radio and television networks reported dozens of missing people in Villahermosa, capital of Tabasco State, and its metropolitan zone.

Only a rainfall decrease in the following hours can improve the 700,000 people's situation, said Felipe Arrreguin, technical secretary of the Mexican National Water Commission.
Death penalty foes try new bid for UN resolution

UNITED NATIONS, 2 Nov—More than 70 countries opposed to the death penalty launched a fresh bid on Thursday to have the UN General Assembly pass a resolution urging an end to the practice, diplomats said. Two previous similar attempts failed to win a majority in the 192-member assembly. This time, the text stops short of an outright demand for immediate abolition.

Instead, a draft presented to the assembly’s human rights committee and obtained by reuters called on countries that put criminals to death to “establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty”. It says the punishment “undermines human dignity”, that “there is no conclusive evidence of the death penalty’s deterrent value” and that “any miscarriage or failure of justice in (its) implementation is irreversible and irreparable”.

The United States, where many states perform executions and which opposed previous resolutions, said it would again vote against the measure. Mission spokesman Richard Grenell said US use of the penalty is a decision left to our democratically elected governments at the federal and state levels.

MNA/Reuters

Two shot dead in drive-by shootings in violence-torn Thai south

BANGKOK, 1 Nov—Violence continued in Thailand’s far south Tuesday morning as an Islamic religious teacher was gunned down in the Narathiwat province, while a teenage girl was killed and three other residents were wounded in two separate attacks in nearby Yala province.

Usaman Naruso, a 54-year-old teacher at an Islamic religious school in Yala’s Raman District, was shot on his way to the school. Followed by a gunman on a motorcycle, he was shot several times and died at the scene, according to Thai News Agency.

Meanwhile, in the nearby province of Yala, a 13-year-old girl was shot dead and three others wounded in two separate attacks. The girl was pronounced dead at the hospital after she and her mother were shot in a drive-by shooting in Raman District. The mother was shot in the chest while her daughter was shot in the abdomen and died at hospital.

In another attack, a couple was shot injured by a gunman on a motorcycle while they were riding their motorcycle on a road in the Muang District. Renewed round of insurgency related violence has troubled Thailand’s three southern most provinces, Narathiwat, Yala and Pattani, for nearly four years, and has seen some 2,500 people killed in the region.

MNA/Xinhua

Seoul to bring in women-only subway cars in 2008

SEOUL, 1 Nov—The subway corporations serving South Korea’s capital will introduce women-only cars next year to make rides more comfortable and free of groping male hands, a subway official said on Wednesday.

“Sexual crimes happen frequently when the cars are packed and people are pressed against each other,” the subway official said.

Nearly half the crimes reported on the city’s eight subway lines are sexual in nature, with many taking place on two lines that serve university and office districts, lawmaker Lee Jae-chang said in Parliament on Monday.—MNA/Reuters

US Undersecretary of State Karen Hughes resigns

WASHINGTON, 2 Nov — The White House said on Wednesday that Karen Hughes, Undersecretary of State for US public diplomacy and a long-time confidante of US President George W Bush, had decided to resign.

“I can confirm that Karen Hughes has decided that, after 12 years of government service, that she is going to go back to Texas by the end of the year,” White House spokeswoman Dana Perino said.

Hughes was sworn in as undersecretary of state for public diplomacy in September 2005 and her main mission is to try to improve the negative image of the United States around the world following the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

Hughes was once confidante to President Bush in his early years in the White House and is considered as Bush’s long-time confidante. — MNA/Xinhua

A lesser panda couple, both named ‘You-you’, play at Yumemigasaki zoological park in Kawasaki, south of Tokyo on 1 Nov, 2007.

INTERNET
Chrysler to cut up to 10,000 factory jobs

DETROIT, 2 Nov — Chrysler LLC said on Thursday it would cut up to 10,000 hourly jobs over the next 14 months as it slashes production in North America and eliminates four slow-selling vehicles.

The sweeping job cuts — representing more than one-fifth of Chrysler’s unionized work force — came just four days after workers at the automaker narrowly ratified a new contract that had faced deep-seated opposition from the union rank and file.

The layoffs are in addition to 13,000 jobs that Chrysler had already planned to cut as part of a restructuring plan announced in February. In total, the cuts mark the deepest job reductions undertaken by any of the embattled US automakers.

Chrysler said it would eliminate shifts at any North American assembly plants and stop making the Dodge Magnum wagon, the convertible version of the PT Cruiser, the Pacifica crossover utility and the Crossfire sports car.

Dissidents within the United Auto Workers who had lobbied to scuttle the now-ratified Chrysler contract said the action by Cerberus had left workers angry with both union leadership and the automaker’s new owners.

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ECONOMIC NEWS

Indonesia’s Lion Air raises “Boeing 737” orders to 122

JAKARTA, 2 Nov — Indonesia’s first budget carrier Lion Air will raise the purchase of Boeing 737-900 to 122 in a new deal to be signed in December, an executive said on Wednesday.

The purchase is part of the company’s ambition to dominate domestic low-cost air transportation and acquire other airliners in several Asian countries.

The sale and purchase deal will be signed with Boeing on the sidelines of the Langkawi Air Show in Malaysia on 4 December, Lion Air spokesman Hasyim Arsal Alhabsi told reporters here.

Lion already purchased 60 737-900ERs and became the first to operate the plane on a commercial flight after two 90ERs arrived earlier this year.

Hasyim said 60 of the new planes will operate on domestic routes while the rest will be used for the company’s global expansion.

Lion plans to acquire airliners in Vietnam, Thailand and Bangladesh, he said without elaborating.

“We have the planes, what we need to do now is to find partners.”

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Doughnut chain sparks latest Japanese food scandal

Tokyo, 2 Nov — Another day, another food scandal in Japan.

Mister Donut, a US based chain of doughnut stores, stopped selling two kinds of fruit drink on Wednesday after finding they contained expired syrups, the latest in a string of scandals to plague a country obsessed with food safety.

Pictures of company executives bowing their heads deep in apology have become near-daily fare on TV news programmes in recent days, rattling consumers who had been more worried about imports from China and a long-running row over US beef.

Before Mister Donut, operated in Japan by Duskin Co, confectionery maker Akafuku Co was found to have fudged production and expiry dates for its bean paste-covered rice cakes for over 30 years.

A confectioner selling a similar product, which saw sales sky-rocket after Akafuku’s scandal, has now been reported to have extended expiry dates for its sweets and printed false ingredient tables.

The scandals, which industry watchers say were brought to light by whistle-blowers, have angered consumer groups, who blame companies for duping customers in pursuit of easy profits.

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China, ASEAN pledge to join hands in poverty alleviation

NANNING, 2 Nov — Representatives from China and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on Wednesday promised they would work together to promote social development and poverty alleviation in the region.

A proposal on poverty reduction was issued after two days of discussions among more than 100 Chinese and ASEAN officials, scholars and entrepreneurs at the First China-ASEAN Forum on Social Development and Poverty Reduction in the southern Chinese city of Nanning.

Acknowledging the region is “one of those that suffer from serious poverty in the world”, the proposal identified poverty alleviation as a “common mission for policy-makers, researchers and practitioners in China and the ASEAN”.

“Poverty reduction...should be based on economic growth and structural optimization, and guaranteed by improved public services including public information network, and social security system plus specialized poverty reduction interventions and relief services,” the proposal says.

It recommended China and the ASEAN jointly establish a mechanism of cooperation among policymakers, enterprises and non-governmental organizations to ensure projects and policies to be more scientific and reasonable, and to avoid any overlapping and duplication during implementation.

China has made remarkable progress in poverty alleviation in the past 30 years. The rural population in absolute poverty has been reduced from 250 million in 1978 to 21.5 million last year.

The ratio of national poverty in the country now stands at 2.3 per cent, compared with 30.7 per cent in late 1978, according to Fan Xiaoqian, deputy chief of the State Council Leading Group for Poverty Alleviation, China’s national organization in charge of poverty reduction.

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Poverty Reduction in the world is “one of those that suffer from serious poverty in the world”. China has made remarkable progress in poverty alleviation in the past 30 years. The rural population in absolute poverty has been reduced from 250 million in 1978 to 21.5 million last year. The ratio of national poverty in the country now stands at 2.3 per cent, compared with 30.7 per cent in late 1978, according to Fan Xiaoqian, deputy chief of the State Council Leading Group for Poverty Alleviation, China’s national organization in charge of poverty reduction.

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Picture taken on 31 Oct, 2007 shows saffron crocus flowers near Torbat-e-Heydarieh of Razavi Khorasan Province in Iran. Saffron crocus is a kind of valuable medicinal material. Iran is a main produce base of saffron crocus, located in Razavi Khorasan Province and Southern Khorasan Province. With a history of 700 years in saffron planting, Iran's annual saffron output accounts for about 75 percent of world's total.
National Immunization Days (2007)...

In his address, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo said that the government is making relentless efforts for all-round development of the State. In this regard, it is convinced of the fact that healthy, fit and educated citizens are main human resources. Hence, the Ministry of Health has laid down and is implementing tasks for each and every citizen to be free from diseases and to enjoy longevity.

In its efforts for development of the health care services of the people the Ministry of Health has laid down the long-term and short-term plans and is implementing them in a systematic manner. In doing so, it has opened more hospitals, dispensaries and rural health care centres in different states and divisions including border areas under the leadership of the government.

In order to bring about harmonious development across the nation there emerged 200-bed hospital each in the 24-special development zones so that health care services can be carried out effectively.

In the meantime, for development of health care services the existing hospitals were upgraded and extended opening of 300-bed hospitals, 200-bed hospitals and specialists hospitals was carried out. Moreover, each hospital was facilitated with modern medical equipment, while striving for prevention of infectious diseases to keep pace with changes and developments.

Remarkable progress has been made in the health care services of the people as the government is taking steps for fully providing health care to the people. In the past, some major diseases that harmed the people were only in a state of being under control. At present, they are in a state of being totally eliminated. And some major diseases are in no position to cause trouble to the people. The fact and data of UN agencies have shown that there has been significant decrease in major diseases that cause trouble to the people.

Out of the infectious diseases, the Ministry of Health gives oral vaccines and vaccinations yearly to prevent seven different kinds of diseases under the leadership of the government. In that regard, congenial organizational and relevant departments as well as social organizations are providing all necessary assistance right down to grass roots levels. With such aids, the efforts of the Ministry of Health are meeting with success.

The health of children can be improved all the more through the launch of immunization. As long as the tasks for uplift of health and education standards of the people can be implemented there will emerge highly qualified human resources capable of serving the interest of the State and its people.

In the world, millions of children are inflicted with infectious diseases yearly. Consequently, they developed different kinds of ailments and were dead or became disabled. As further complication, families of the victims suffered much as medical cost was high. In addition, health and labour of families of the victims were lost.

That is why the WHO implemented control projects on infectious diseases which are most common among children. Smallpox has been eliminated in the world due to the wider cooperation of the people of the world.

The Health Department of the Ministry of Health made efforts for the children to be free from seven diseases that can be cured by vaccines. The department also gave priority to total elimination of polio that affects children and disease control measures are being taken as the national task.

Polio vaccines were given to infants under one year at least three times and newborn and five-year old children under door-to-door programme after launching the National Immunization Days.

He said the National Immunization Days have been launched for 12 times from 2000 to 2006 — eight times nationwide and four times regionwide. Wild viral polio disease transmitted to Maungtaw Township from a neighbouring country in March 2007.

The National Immunization Days was launched to give more polio vaccines to all infants and children under five with the aim of controlling the spread of polio virus and making children more resistant to the disease.

The first phase of NID will be held on 3-5 November and the second phase on 2-4 December in 325 townships. Polio vaccines will be given to 7.2 million children in states and divisions with the assistance of WHO, UNICEF, donor nations and wellwishers.

Polio is the disease that threatens children to become disabled. Parents are urged to prevent their offspring from the disease by giving oral polio vaccines. The Secretary-1 and party visited a booth in commemoration of NID.

The Secretary-1, the commander, the ministers, the Japanese Ambassador, Vice-Presidents and executives of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and guests gave oral polio vaccines to the children and presented gifts to them.

Next, the Secretary-1, the commander, the ministers, the deputy ministers, the Japanese Ambassador, officials of WHO, UNICEF, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association and guests attended the opening ceremony of Nay Pyi Taw Pyimnma District NID in Paunglaung sport ground in Nay Pyi Taw Pyimnma.

Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and Minister Dr Kyaw Myint formally opened the ceremony.

The Secretary-1, the commander and party gave oral polio vaccines to the children at Paunglaung Gymnasium in Nay Pyi Taw Pyimnma and presented gifts to them.
Kathina robes, provisions donated to monasteries in Yangon

— Under the patronage of Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung and wife Daw Khin Khin Yi, the staff families of the ministry held a ceremony to offer Kathina robes to the members of Sangha of Thayettaw Monastery in Lanmadaw Township here today.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe, Minister U Aung Thaung and wife Daw Khin Khin Yi offered the Kathina robes and provisions to the Chairman Sayadaw of Township Sangha Nayaka Committee, Minister U Aung Thaung and wife Daw Khin Khin Yi the Kathina robes and alms to the Chairman Sayadaw of TSNC and those present the robes and offertories to the members of the Sangha.

Later, the congregation shared merits gained. A total of 592 members of the Sangha were offered the Kathina robes on the occasion.

The ministry donated robes and provisions worth 10.2 million kyats to Thayettaw Monastery.

The minister also attended the similar ceremony at Tipitaka Mahagadawin Nikaya Monastery in Dagon Myothit (East) Township. The congregation received the Five Precepts from the Sayadaw of the monastery.

Forestry Minister inspects quality of timber logs

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected logs of Myanmar Timber Enterprise.—FORESTRY

— Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspected quality of timber logs to be sold through tender at International Trade and Saw Mill Division of Myanmar Timber Enterprise at Kan 3 Raft Jetty in Ahlon Township and Setsan Raft Jetty in Pazundaung Township on 28 October and gave necessary instructions. On 29 October, the minister viewed International Tender Sales at Myanmar Timber Enterprise (Head office), and extended greetings to foreign and local entrepreneurs.

At the sales, high quality teak logs were sold through tender, low quality teak logs through sealed tender and sawn timber through auction system. A total of 119 entrepreneurs — 28 from abroad and 91 at home — attended the sales. — MNA

No longer wish to be NLD members

15 of Myaung, Sagaing Township NLDs quit

— A total of 13 members including Daw Saw Kyi, Daw Yi, U Win Sein, Daw Khin Myo Win and Ma Win Win Maw of Anghaya Village of Myaung Township National League for Democracy and U Hla Han of Myinse Village and U Tin Aung of Thawtapan Village of Sagaing Township NLD of Sagaing Division resigned from NLD on their own accord on 20 and 28 September respectively.

They sent their resignation letters to NLD headquarters and local authorities concerned.

They said in the letters sent to Myaung and Sagaing Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Sub-commissions that they no longer wished to be NLD members. Therefore, they said, they quit NLD of their own volition. — MNA

Last 20 caps named to set up Myanmar U-19 Selected Football Squad

YANGON, 3 Nov — Last 20 caps were named to set up Myanmar U-19 Selected Football Team to participate in the group-C qualifier for Asian U-19 Men’s Football Championship to be held in Thailand from 6 to 18 November.

Myanmar U-19 comprises U Saw Than Naing as group leader, U Tin Han as manager, U San Win as chief coach, U Soe Moe and U Sai Maung Maung Oo as assistant coaches, Dr Aung Ko Ko Win as medical officer, U Pyae Phyo Aung as male nurse and Nay Hlaing (Royal Eleven FC) and Min Naing (Commerce) as goalkeepers, Naing Lin Tun (Energy), Zaw Naing Tun (YCDC), Yan Myo Aung (A&K), Nay Aung (Construction), Aye Moe (Energy), Thaing Tun Zaw (Construction), Lin Lin Htwe (Energy), Zaw Zaw Oo (Construction) as defenders, Ko Ko Maung (Energy), Pyae Phyo Oo (Transport), Wai Lin (SPEI-Mandalay), Myint Naing (F&R), Tin Win Aung (SPEI-Mandalay), Win Thu (YCDC) as midfielders, Zin Myo Aung (YCDC), Aung Kyaw Myo (Energy), Kyaw Kyaw Khine (F&R) and Yan Aung Win (SPEI-Mandalay) as forwards.

Myanmar U-19 is in the group-C qualifier together with host Thailand, Japan, China (Taipei), Laos and Maldives. Myanmar will play against Laos on 8 November, China (Taipei) on 10 November, Japan on 12 November, Thailand on 16 November and Maldives on 18 November. — NLM

Myanmar U-19 Selected Football Team seen at the training session. — NLM
Dagon Bridge improving industrial and economic sectors

The government has established industrial zones across the nation with a view to raising the private sector and creating opportunities for national entrepreneurs to spread their wings, boosting per capita income of the people in states and divisions, with the efficient use of forest product raw materials, and export the products.

Q: What sorts of factories does the Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone have?
A: Ten foodstuff factories, 20 personal good factories, two construction material factories, 17 forest products factories, two chemical factories, three stationery factories, three machinery and machine factories, five marine product factories, five automobile assembling factories, and four foundry plants.

Q: I would like to know if the industrial zone exhibited its products in the Myanmar-China Trade Fair held at Muse 105th-mile camp last year.

Q: Well, U Maung Maung Naing, the industrial zone is boosting production of the items. So, I would like to know what sorts of benefits you have made due to the emergence of the Dagon Bridge.
A: It is a long time I have dreamt about a bridge like the Dagon Bridge. I founded my factories in the Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone, looking forward to the emergence of the Dagon Bridge. Now, the Dagon Bridge has been opened, so our dream has come true. On the other side of the Dagon Bridge, there are Thilawa International Port Terminal and Thilawa Industrial Zone that is being extended. Our Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone is the second nearest industrial zone to Thilawa International Port Terminal. Thilawa Industrial Zone that will emerge soon is the nearest one. The Dagon Bridge will help us save time and money. It can withstand 75 tons of loads for a cargo truck. So, ten-wheel and twelve-wheel trucks and container trucks can use it easily.

Q: What sorts of benefits do you think the people will enjoy due to the emergence of the bridge?
A: In the past, the majority of the workers in the Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone were from Ward 88 and Ward 89 of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township. We had to rely much on them. I wanted to extend production processes of some factories, but I could not do so, because of labour shortage. Now, the people on Thanlyin side can enjoy more job opportunities. Workers on Thanlyin side who want to work here are warmly welcome to the Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone. We can enjoy opportunities to extend our works due to the bridge.

See page 9
Dagon Bridge improving industrial and economic…

(from page 8)

Q: U Myint San, would you please explain the transport conditions after the emergence of the Dagon Bridge?
A: We can get to Yangon East University and Thilawa International Port Terminal in a short time if we use the Dagon Bridge. That means we can save one-third of the time we have to take to get to the same destinations using the Thanlyin Bridge. We can go to Kayan and Thongwa directly. These townships are the source of a lot of agricultural produce. They will be able to transport their produce to Yangon in a short time due to the bridge. Previously, it took two hours for the workers who left Dagon Seikkan Garment Factory to get home by using Thanlyin Bridge. Now, it takes only twenty minutes for them using the Dagon Bridge. I think it will be more convenient for the people when there are more bus lines that pass through the Dagon Bridge, for instance, the distance between Dagon Seikkan and Thanlyin, Kayan, Thongwa, and between Dagon Seikkan and South Dagon, North Dagon and East Dagon. If duties are assigned to the Management Committee of the Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone regarding the matters to launch new bus lines, we will try our best for that.

Q: U Than Zaw Htwe, how do you feel, regarding the Dagon Bridge?
A: It links Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), Yangon East District, and Thilawa International Port Terminal and Thilawa Special Commercial Zone in Thanlyin Township, Yangon South District. I am pleased that we will be able to export our industrial products through the Dagon Bridge.

Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone is seen from a site near the Dagon Bridge.

I also interviewed driver U Tin Tun who drove a container truck passing through the Dagon Bridge. Daw Than Than of Yuzana Sittoung Housing Estate, Daw Sandar of Yuzana Garden City, and passenger bus driver Ko Zaw Win Oo.

Q: U Tin Tun, how long have you worked as a container truck driver? And is it convenient for you to drive pass through the Dagon Bridge?
A: I have worked as a container truck driver for more than ten years. It is very convenient for me to drive on the Dagon Bridge because it has a six-lane motorway on it. Moreover, there is no need to worry about the weight of loads, because it can withstand 75 tons of loads for a truck. We can get to Thilawa Port in Thanlyin through No 2 Highway in a short time. Therefore, I have to say thanks to the government.

Q: Daw Than Than, what is your age? Is it convenient for you to pass through the bridge?
A: I am 60. I live in Yuzana Sittoung Housing Estate. When I moved to the estate, I learnt that a bridge would be built here. So, I decided to settle here. I learnt that the bridge had been opened, so I am here to see it. We can enjoy fresh air, staying on the bridge in the evenings. It is good for our health.

Q: Daw Sandar, is it the first time you are here?
A: No, I come here every day. I live in Yuzana Garden City near here. Now, I can go to any other place easily thanks to the bridge.

Q: Ko Zaw Win Oo, do you pass through the Dagon Bridge to travel between Yangon and Thanlyin?
A: Yes, I ferry students on Yangon side to and from Yangon East University in Thanlyin in a bus. I also ferry the workers in Thilawa to and from Coffee Mix Factory in Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone. In the past, I passed through Thanlyin Bridge. Now, I pass through the Dagon Bridge to save time. Due to the Dagon Bridge, drivers of Thanlyin, Kayankun, Kayan and Thongwa can save fuel a lot.

The government spent more than 20,000 million kyats on the reinforced-concrete type bridge with a six-lane motorway on it. The Ministry of Construction is building many bridges, large and small, for the convenience of the people to travel from one place to another in accordance with the motto “Build roads and bridges to enhance friendship among national races”. The infrastructures including the transport ones reflect the efforts the government is making for equitable development of all parts of the Union.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin: 3-11-2007

In the past, the majority of the workers in the Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone were from Ward 88 and Ward 89 of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township. We had to rely much on them. I wanted to extend production processes of some factories, but I could not do so, because of labour shortage. Now, the people on Thanlyin side can enjoy more job opportunities. Workers on Thanlyin side who want to work here are warmly welcome to the Dagon Seikkan Industrial Zone. We can enjoy opportunities to extend our works due to the bridge.
Prizes given to winners in 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Nov — Patron of the organizing 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Secretary-I of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thura U Tin Oo presented prizes to the winners in the Performing Arts Competitions at City Hall, here, on 1 November.

Also present on the occasion were Members of the SPDC Lt-Gen Khin Maung Than and Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Competitions Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin and wife, ministers and their wives, the Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Chairman of Civil Service Selection and Training Board, senior military officers, deputy ministers, the Deputy Auditor-General, members of CSSTB, directors-general of SPDC Office and government’s office, departments concerned, members of the Leading Committee, chairman and members of the Work Committee and subcommittees, rectors of University of Agriculture, University of Veterinary Science and University of Forestry, members of social organizations and panel of judges, supervisors, coordinators, prize winners and national race cultural groups.

At the prize presentation ceremony, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin gave prizes to the winners: U Maung Han of Ayeyawady Division stood first, U Sein Win of Bago Division second and U Haing Tin Swe of Yangon Division third in the amateur level (first class) men’s dominion contest; U Myint Soe of Ayeyawady Division secured the first prize, U Thant Zaw Aung of Rakhine State, the second prize and U Naing Oo of Mon State, the third prize in the amateur level (second class) men’s dominion contest; Maung Myo Thu of Mandalay Division bagged the second prize and Maung Aung Naung Oo of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the higher education level (men’s) dominion contest; Maung Moe Wai of Ayeyawady Division and Maung Zeya Naing Oo of Yangon Division won the first prizes, Maung Htoo Aung of Yangon Division, the second prize and Maung Aung Kay Kyaw of Bago Division, the third prize in the basic education level (15-20 age group) boys’ dominion contest; Maung Aung Si Min Htet of Bago Division clinched the first prize, Maung Ye Win of Mandalay Division, the second prize and Maung Zin Waing of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the basic education level (15-20 age group) girls’ dominion contest; and Ma Su Myat Noe of Yangon Division attained the first prize, Ma Khin Pyae Son Aung of Yangon Division, the second prize and Ma Aye Thazin of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the (5-10 age group) girls’ dominion contest.

Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung awarded the first prize to U Sein Maung Ei of Yangon Division and the second prize to U Hla Htay of Thanlwin Division and the third prize to U Tar Naw of Mandalay Division in the amateur level (first class) oboe contest; the first prizes to Stg Myint Aung of Yangon Division and Myanmarnpii Moi Hlyan of Mon State, the second prize to U Tin Myint (a) Zeyar Myint of Bago Division and the third prize to U Myo Min Than of Yangon Division in the amateur level (second class) oboe contest; the first prize to Maung Phyu Wai Min of Ayeyawady Division and the second prize to Maung Soe Min Tho of Mandalay Division in the higher education level men’s oboe contest; the first prize to Maung Phyo Hlyan of Mon State, the second prize to Maung Kaung Myay Wai of Yangon Division and the third prize to Maung Zin Waing of Mandalay Division in the basic education level (15-20 age group) boys’ oboe contest; the first prize to Maung Tun Nanda of Yangon Division, Maung Soe Thida of Yangon Division and the third prize to Maung Nay Zaw Oo of Mandalay Division in the basic education level (10-15 age group) boys’ oboe contest; and the first prize to Maung Nyein Win Moe of Yangon Division, the second prize to Maung Chan Lwin Moe of Yangon Division and the third prize to Maung Ye Thura Aung of Mandalay Division in the basic education level (5-10 age group) boys’ oboe contest.

Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay handed first, second and third prizes to U Thant Zaw of Mandalay Division, U Khin Maung Yin of Rakhine State and U Kyi Maung of Kachin State in the amateur level (first class) violin contest respectively; U Cho Gyi of Yangon Division, U Yu Maung of Yangon Division and Maung Saw Htoo Htoo Wai of Kayah State in the amateur level (second class) violin contest respectively, first and second prizes to Maung Kyaw Shin Naing of Ayeyawady Division, Maung Wint Khant Thoe of Chin State and Maung Ye Yint Ko Ko of Mandalay Division in the higher education level (men’s) violin contest respectively; the second prize to Maung Min Thukha of Yangon Division, Maung Ye Nanda Tun of Mandalay Division and Maung Hein Ko Ko of Taninthayi Division in the basic education level (15-20 age group) boys’ violin contest respectively; the first prize to Maung
Prizes given to winners...

(from page 10)

Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo gave prizes to the winners: Maung Zaw Min (a) Pho La Pyae of Yangon Division won the first prize, Maung Nyin Chan Phyo of Mandalay and Maung Tin Htet Paing Lin (a) Bo Shine of Yangon Division, the second prizes and Maung Phyo Hlyan of Mon State, the third prize in the basic education level (15-20 age group) boys’ solo orchestra contest; Maung Phyo Htet Aung of Sagaing Division achieved the first prize, Maung Aung Myo Min of Yangon Division, the second prize and Maung Bo Kyaw of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the (10-15 age group) boys’ solo orchestra contest; and Maung Naing Naing of Ayeyawady Division picked up the first prize, Maung Htet Arkar Maung of Yangon Division, the second prize and Maung Ye Min Tun (a) Bo Ye Htet of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the (5-10 age group) boys’ solo orchestra contest.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe presented prizes to the winners: Doh Bo Ma (a) Moe Thuzar Aye of Mandalay Division gained the first prize, Daw Khin Khin Myint of Rakhine State, the second prize, and Daw Khaung Zar Win of Yangon Division, the third prize in the amateur level (first class) women’s solo orchestra contest; Daw Htet Htet Lin of Mandalay Division received the first prize, Daw Mya Mya Win of Bago Division, the second prize and Daw Nye Nu Lwin of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the amateur level (second class) women’s solo orchestra contest; Ma Sein Moe of Bago Division obtained the first prize and Ma Gwa Sar (a) Ei Ei Mon of Ayeyawady Division, the second prize in the higher education level (women’s) solo orchestra contest; Ma Zarni Nan Lwin of Yangon Division got the first prize, Ma Kay Zin Chit Su of Yangon Division, the second prize and Ma Htay Htay Aye of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the basic education level (15-20 age group) girls’ solo orchestra contest; Ma Win Nanda Lwin of Yangon Division won the first prize, Ma Kyi Kyi Tha of Kachin State, the second prize and Ma Aye Myat Noe Khin of Yangon Division, the third prize in the basic education level (15-20 age group) girls’ solo orchestra contest; and Ma Phyu Hnin Naing (a) solo Myanmarrpy Bo Ma of Sagaing Division possessed the first prize, Ma Po Ei San of Yangon Division, the second prize and Ma Hnin Ei Ilanng of Magway Division, the third prize in the (5-10 age group) girls’ solo orchestra contest.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe presented prizes to the winners: Doh Bo Hla (a) Aye Thanda Lwin and party of Mandalay Division, the second prize and Daw Kyi Kyi San and party of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the amateur level (first class) men’s Ozi contest; Maung Aung Hsan Min and party of Yangon Division, the second prize and Maung Phyo Wai Thu and party of Yangon Division, the third prize in the basic education level (5-10 age group) boys’ troupe orchestra contest.

Deputy Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Aung Tun handed prizes to the winners: Ma Shwe Sin Kyaw and party of Mandalay Division, the first prize, Maung Aung Kyaw and party of Mandalay Division, the second prize, and Maung Myo Tho and party of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the amateur level (15-20 age group) girls’ Ozi orchestra contest; and Maung Nyunt Aung of Mandalay Division, the first prize, Maung Aung Hsan Min and party of Mandalay Division, the second prize, and Maung Phyo Wai Thu and party of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the basic education level (5-10 age group) boys’ Ozi orchestra contest.

Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Col Thein Ngwe presented prizes to the winners: U Ye Lin Bo and party won the first prize, U Myo Thant Tin (a) Bo Bo Thein and party of Mandalay Division, the second prize and Maung Aung and party of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the amateur level (first class) men’s troupe orchestra contest; and Maung Phyo Htet Aung (a) Maung Maung Nyan and party of Bago Division earned the first prize, U Kyaw Moe Naing and party of Mandalay Division, the second prize and Maung Htet Ko Ko and party of Yangon Division, the third prize in the amateur level (second class) men’s troupe orchestra contest; and Maung Aung Mo and party of Mandalay Division secured the first prize, Maung Zeyar Tun and party of Ayeyawady Division, the second prize and Maung Nyi Ye Tha (a) Thein Than Soe and party of Yangon Division, the third prize in the higher education level men’s troupe orchestra contest.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and

Deputy Minister Col Nyan Tun Aung awards prize to a winner in amateur level (second class) Oboe contest.—MNA

Handed first, second and third prizes to U Kyaw Kyaw Han and troupe of Yangon Division, U Sein Kalar and troupe of Mandalay Division and U Kyaw Moe and troupe of Mandalay Division in the amateur level (first class) men’s Ozi contest respectively: U Aye Min and troupe of Yangon Division, Maung Phyo Maw and troupe of Mandalay Division and U Ye Win Tun and troupe of Sagaing Division in the amateur level (second class) men’s Ozi contest respectively: Maung Lin Htun Aung and troupe of Mon State, Maung Kaung Kyaw and troupe of Mandalay Division and Maung Nyunt Aung and troupe of Ayeyawady Division in the higher education level men’s Ozi contest respectively; Maung Sein Bo Htwa and troupe of Mandalay Division, Maung Zaw Min (a) Po La Pyae and troupe of Yangon Division and Maung Tin Htet Paing Lin (a) Bo Shine and troupe of Yangon Division in the basic education level (15-20 age group) boys’ Ozi contest; Maung Min Hein Htet and troupe of Mandalay Division, Maung Phone Myint Kyaw and troupe of Sagaing Division and Maung The Chit Htway and troupe of Yangon Division in the (10-15 age group) boys’ Ozi contest; and Maung Han Thura Tun and troupe of Yangon Division, Maung Chit Oo Maung and troupe of Mandalay Division and Maung Htet Arkar Maung and troupe of Yangon Division in the (5-10 age group) boys’ Ozi contest.

Deputy Minister for Construction Brig-Gen Myint Thein gave the first prize to U Kyaw Kyaw Han and troupe of Yangon Division, the second prize to U Sein Kalar and troupe of Mandalay Division and the third prize to U Kyaw Moe and troupe of Mandalay Division in the amateur level (first class) Dobat contest; first, second and third prizes to U Kyaw Zin Latt and troupe of Bago Division, Maung Pyae Phyo Maw and troupe of Mandalay Division and U Lin Htui Aung and troupe of Mandalay Division in the amateur level (second class) Dobat contest; first, second and third prizes to U Kyaw Zin Latt and troupe of Ayeyawady DivisionWo who stood first in the higher education level Dobat contest, Maung Kaung Kyaw and troupe of Mandalay Division, second and Maung Nyi Ye Tha (a) Thein Than Soe and troupe of Yangon Division, third in the higher education level Dobat contest; first, second and third prizes to Maung Sein Bo Htwa and troupe of Mandalay Division, Maung Aung Moe Oo and troupe of Mandalay Division and Maung Zaw Min (a) Po La Pae and troupe of Sagaing Division and second and Maung Nyi Ye Tha (a) Thein Than Soe and troupe of Yangon Division, third in the higher education level Dobat contest; first, second and third prizes to Maung Sein Bo Htwa and troupe of Mandalay Division, Maung Maung Aung and troupe of Sagaing Division, second and Maung Htet Ko Ko and troupe of Mandalay Division in the basic education level (10-15 age group) Dobat contest respectively; and Maung Htet Arkar Maung and troupe of Yangon Division, Maung Chit Oo Maung and troupe of Mandalay Division and Maung Paing Hmu Thaw and troupe of Yangon Division in the (5-10 age group) Dobat contest respectively.

Deputy Minister for Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe presented prizes to the winners: U Ye Lin Bo and party won the first prize, U Myo Thant Tin (a) Bo Bo Thein and party of Mandalay Division, the second prize and Maung Aung and party of Mandalay Division, the third prize in the amateur level (first class) men’s troupe orchestra contest; Maung Hsan Thit Aung (a) Maung Maung Nyan and party of Bago Division earned the first prize, U Kyaw Moe Naing and party of Mandalay Division, the second prize and Maung Htet Ko Ko and party of Yangon Division, the third prize in the amateur level (second class) men’s troupe orchestra contest; and Maung Phyo Maw and party of Mandalay Division secured the first prize, Maung Zeyar Tun and party of Ayeyawady Division, the second prize and Maung Nyi Ye Tha (a) Thein Than Soe and party of Yangon Division, the third prize in the higher education level men’s troupe orchestra contest.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and...
China builds bigger rockets for heavier satellites

BEIJING, 2 Nov — China is building a new range of rockets designed to triple the payload capacity needed to lift larger satellites into geosynchronous orbit, Xinhua said on Wednesday.

The carrying capacity can reach 14 tons from the current 2.6 to 5.4 tons while sending satellites into geosynchronous orbit, like Chang'e-1, the news agency quoted Wu Yansheng, president of the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology, as saying.

The Long March 5 rockets will be able to carry payloads of up to 25 tons for low earth orbit satellites, up from the current limit of 9.2 tons, said Wu.

“China’s first lunar probe, Chang-e-1, named after a legendary Chinese goddess, blasted off on a Long March 3A carrier rocket on 24 October from a launch centre in southwestern China. In addition to their bigger capacity, Long March 5 rockets will be designed using pollution-free technologies, Wu said.

“The new generation of carrier rockets are expected to blast off within six to seven years,” said Ma Xingrui, general manager of the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation.

The Long March 5 rockets will lift off from a new space launch centre in the southern island province of Hainan. The new centre, the fourth in China, is expected to be completed in 2012, Xinhua said.

Suicide bomber rams Pakistan military bus, kills eight

MULTAN (Pakistan), 2 Nov — A suicide bomber on a motorcycle rammed a Pakistan Air Force (PAF) bus killing at least eight people and wounding 40 near the central city of Sargodha on Thursday, the military said.

The security situation in Pakistan has deteriorated sharply in the past few months at a time of political uncertainty. An election is due by January that is meant to mark a transition to civilian-led democracy.

The bus was taking personnel to the air base in Sargodha in the central province of Punjab.

“Eight people have been killed including four officers,” military spokesman Major-General Waheed Arshad said, adding civilians were among those killed. An Air Force spokesman said 40 people were wounded.

There is speculation that President Pervez Musharraf, who came to power in a coup eight years ago, could ditch plans for the election, and impose emergency powers or martial law.

The Supreme Court is expected to rule in the next few days on whether General Musharraf’s re-election, and impose emergency powers or martial law.

Chinese troops in the central city of Sargodha for a military exercise are seen near the site of a suicide bomb blast that killed at least eight and wounded 40, in Multan, Pakistan, November 2, 2007. Reuters/Umair Ali

The photo shows the Mount Everest in southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region, on 23 Oct, 2007. The Mount Everest, also called Mount Qomolangma, is the highest peak in the world which stands 8844.43 metres above sea level. China is confident to rely the torch from Olympia, Greece, the cradle of the Olympiad, to the Mount Everest, which was promised when China applied to host the 2008 Olympic Games.—XINHUA

China-Russia trade reaches $34.9b in first nine months

BEIJING, 2 Nov — Trade between China and Russia surged to 34.9 billion US dollars in the first nine months, up 42 percent from the same period last year, according to China’s Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM).

The figure exceeded the entire 2006 level of 33.4 billion US dollars.

“Sino-Russian economic and trade cooperation has entered a new stage and we can certainly raise the trade volume to 60 billion to 80 billion US dollars by 2010,” said Vice Minister of Commerce Yu Guangzhou.

The volume of machinery and electronic products traded between the two countries amounted to 7.3 billion US dollars in the first nine months, making up 21 per cent of the total bilateral trade, according to the MOFCOM.

China’s exports of machinery and electronic products to Russia doubled the first three-quarters figure of 2006 to hit 7.1 billion US dollars, about one third of total trade.

Exports of high value-added products to Russia such as automobiles, engineering machinery, telecommunications equipment and electronic products were on the rise.

Russia’s exports to China, ranging from aerospace equipment, nuclear reactors, machine tools to integrated circuits, recovered to report a 17-per-cent increase in the first three quarters.

Yus the acceleration of China-Russia trade in recent years reflected the need and the reality of the economic expansion of both countries.

The end of September, cross-border investment topped 1.6 billion US dollars, with Chinese investment in Russia at 1.03 billion US dollars.—XINHUA

Iran-Iraq border trade heavy but no weapons found

BASRA, Iraq, 2 Nov — Business is booming on the Iran-Iraq border.

Despite a war in one country and Western sanctions against the other’s nuclear program, trucks full of everything from fresh produce to furniture and clothes to consumer electronics trundle to the 1,400-kilometre (900-mile) frontier every day.

But British officials are sure Iranian weapons are coming through. As evidence they mention rocket shrapnel that bears Iranian markings, but at the same time say they have no concrete proof that Iran is supplying Iraq.

“‘It’s fair to say that no one has caught anyone red-handed bringing in lethal aid across the border,’” said Major Anthony Lamb, who oversees training of Iraqi border enforcement units. Hundreds of searches are carried out every day, but as yet, there hasn’t been a direct seizure of lethal aid.”

Lamb says on some days, when British forces visit the major border crossing points in southern Iraq, they can see some Iranian trucks turning back, but there’s no certainty they’re doing so because they’re carrying illicit weapons.—MNA/Reuters
The rich in Netherlands become richer

BRUSSELS, 3 Nov — The rich in the Netherlands have become richer, according to the latest rankings of the 500 wealthiest Dutch families published by business magazine Quote.

The Breminkemeijer family, owners of the C&A chain of department stores, tops the list again with an estimated fortune of 18.5 billion euros, Dutch media reported Thursday.

Brewery Heineken's heiress Charlene de Carvalho-Heineken follows with 3.9 billion euros. The Van der Vorm family of the Holland America Line Investments company moved up from the sixth to the third place with 3.9 billion euros.

The youngest millionaire in the latest annual list is 30-year-old baseball player Andre Loos, who has assets of 67 million euros. The rich in the Netherlands have become richer, according to the latest rankings of the 500 wealthiest Dutch families published by business magazine Quote. The Breminkemeijer family, owners of the C&A chain of department stores, tops the list again with an estimated fortune of 18.5 billion euros, Dutch media reported Thursday.

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Three helicopters crash within 2 hours in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 3 Nov — A helicopter crashed Thursday afternoon in the Brazilian state of Sao Paulo, about two hours after two other helicopters also crashed in the metropolitan region.

The helicopter, operated by flying company ABC, crashed at 4:00 p.m. (1900 GMT) in Ribeirao Preto, northwestern Sao Paulo.

Rescuers said three people were injured and the aircraft was completely destroyed in the accident, which took place in an area close to a state highway, only 200 metres from the company's hangar.

Edvaldo Cesar da Cunha, instruction manager of ABC, said the injured were pilots who worked for the company. “The aircraft had just arrived from maintenance. It was modern and had all documents updated,” he said.

Da Cunha could not say whether the helicopter was about to land or had just taken off from ABC's headquarters, located next to a shopping centre's parking lot in Ribeirao Preto.

Specialists of the Brazilian Air Force are expected to arrive at the spot to analyze evidence from the accident.

Air pollution in Albania causes hundreds of deaths each year

TIRANA, 2 Nov — Heavy air pollution in Albania is causing hundreds of deaths a year, a study issued by the World Health Organization on Thursday showed.

The WHO study estimated that about 200 deaths a year in Albania are directly linked to the increased air pollution in the country, especially in the capital city of Tirana.

The study said excess pollution contributed to various diseases including cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, reducing life expectancy with children and old people the hardest hit.

The air pollution was blamed on secondhand cars which use low quality fuel and spew out tiny particles far exceed international and Euro-pean Union standards, the study said.

For the 3.2 million population in the western Balkan country, one of the poorest in Europe, more than 300,000 aged and secondhand cars are on the road and polluting the air.

Millions wasted on teaching reading in Britain

LONDON, 3 Nov — The British Government has spent half a billion pounds in a failed attempt to boost reading standards in primary schools in England, an academic report said on Friday.

The independent study said the government’s National Literacy Strategy had cost 553 million pounds in the seven years to 2005 but had had “almost no impact” on reading levels.

“It is a scandal, standards have remained constant,” said Durham University Professor of Education Peter Tynms in the report, part of the largest review of primary education for 40 years.

“Standards of reading have remained more or less the same over a very long time — since the 1950s,” he said in a study of existing research for the Cambridge University based Primary Review.

The newly-elected Labour Government launched the National Literacy Strategy in 1998 as one of the pillars of Prime Minister Tony Blair’s mantra of “education, education, education”.

The programme introduced the daily “literacy hour” in primary schools and has been credited by the government with increasing the number of 11-year-olds reaching the expected Level 4 reading standard.

“A red-necked wallaby carries her five-month albino baby inside its pouch, on 1 Nov 2007, at the zoo in Buenos Aires. The baby wallaby will be named by kids in a contest in the next weeks, according to the customs and traditions of the zoo.”

MySpace Thursday made a move to fight its major rival Facebook by joining Google-led alliance, called Open Social, that will enable users to run social applications between networks, instead of being locked into just one platform.

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Reggina sack coach Ficcadenti, bring in Olivieri

**ACROSS**
1. **Shout loudly**
2. **Very light wood**
3. **Relative position**
4. **Girl's name**
5. **Utterly confused**
6. **11 Intention**
7. **13 Orchestra (anag.) (4-5)**
8. **14 Forest official**
9. **15 Implore**
10. **16 Climb**
11. **Tibetan ox**
12. **19 Bag**
13. **20 Pale**
14. **Shout loudly**
15. **Relative position**
16. **19 Bag**
17. **Pale**
18. **Pale**
19. **Pale**
20. **18 Foxglove**
21. **21 Gurkha knife**
22. **22 Stuffy**
23. **23 Crevice**
24. **24 Branch**
25. **25 Systematic written composition**
26. **Zulu warriors**

**DOWN**
1. **1 Very light wood**
2. **2 Pale**
3. **4 Armed guard**
4. **5 Arrives at**
5. **6 Ill-fame**
6. **7 Prosper**
7. **8 Soapstone**
8. **12 Zoo**
9. **15 Inprole**
10. **17 Shuts**
11. **19 Bag**
12. **21 Gurkha knife**
13. **22 Stuffy**
14. **23 Crevice**
15. **24 Branch**
16. **25 Systematic written composition**

**CROSSWORDS PUZZLE**

**Sports**

**Kuwait federation board quit over FIFA ban**

**Kuwait**

2 NOV — Kuwait's soccer federation board resigned on Thursday, days after world governing body FIFA suspended the Gulf Arab state from all international matches because of governmental interference in the national game.

The state news agency KUNA said the mass resignation was "carried out for the good of Kuwaiti football and as a suitable and prompt measure to have FIFA's suspension lifted."

The suspension could rule the Gulf state out of the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, qualifiers for which resume later this month.

Kuwait held elections for key posts in the country's soccer federation on Thursday. FIFA said Kuwait had ignored the two bodies' "road map" requiring them to set up an interim board to organize fresh elections and draft new guidelines to prevent governmental interference in the game.

**Pound takes parting shot at sports governing bodies**

**London**

2 NOV — Outgoing World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) chief Dick Pound warned sport's governing bodies to toughen up in the fight on drugs cheats on Thursday.

"Doping is a 20th century problem being dealt with by 19th century organizations," Pound said on Thursday at a sport industries conference in London.

"It's a big, complicated problem and many of them don't have the stomach for the fight."

Pound said there had been a "sea change" in the attitude to doping in the United States in the wake of the BALCO affair and said progress was being made worldwide.

"The science is a constant game of cat and mouse and that will continue," he said. "But we are making progress. 75 percent of our budget goes on scientific research."

Pound, who leaves his post at the end of November, took a parting shot at cycling's world governing body (UCI) for its failure to get its house in order after another Tour de France blighted by doping.

"They let it get out of control," he said. "Maybe they thought that the Tour de France was bigger than the sport."

"This year was a disaster and when television, written press and commercial backers start bailing out they must have known they were looking into the abyss."
London police guilty over Brazilian's shooting

London's police force was found guilty on Thursday of putting the public at risk over the killing of an innocent Brazilian, gunned down after being mistaken for a suicide bomber in 2005, the BBC reported.

Police shot electrician Jean Charles de Menezes, 27, seven times in the head after he boarded an underground train in south London on 22 July, 2005. They had wrongly identified him as one of four men who tried to attack the city's transport system a day earlier.

The Office of the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police has been found guilty of the single charge of breaching health and safety laws which required action for the public. Prosecutors had accused the force of a "shocking and catastrophic error" during the trial at the Old Bailey, in what was seen as an extraordinary use of workplace health and safety laws against a police force.—MNA/Reuters

UK spies trying to destabilize Russia

MOSCOW, Nov — The man wanted by Britain for the murder of former Russian spy Alexander Litvinenko says British secret services are trying to destabilize Russia.

Former KGB officer Andrei Lugovoy, speaking exactly a year after meeting Litvinenko on the day he fell ill, said he had been caught in a web of intrigue that some figures in Britain were using to damage Russia.

"For the past 15 years in particular, they have been doing everything they can to abolish Russia and discredit her on the world stage," Lugovoy told a press conference Thursday.

Litvinenko met Lugovoy at a London hotel on November 1 last year with another Russian, Dmitry Kovtun. Later that day, Litvinenko complained of feeling ill. He was admitted to hospital and died on November 23 from polonium 210 poisoning.—MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

Sunday, 4 November, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kayin State and Yangon Division, rain or thunder-showers have been isolated in Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, scattered in Rakhine and Kayah States and Magway Division, fairly widespread in Mon State and Tanintharyi Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavy falls in Mandalay and Magway Divisions. Night temperatures were (3ºC) to (4ºC) above November average temperature in Mon State, Mandalay and Bago Divisions, (5ºC) above November average temperature in Kayin and Chin States (3ºC) to (4ºC) below November average temperatures in upper Sagain and Magway Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.24) inch, Myingyi (3.27) inches, Namsam (2.60) inches, Kyaukphu (2.05) inches, Taungu (Aviation) (1.97) inches, Mingaladon (1.73) inches, Taunggu (1.69) inches, Sitwe (1.65) inches, Pakokku (1.58) inches and Taungyi (1.57) inches. Maximum temperature on 2-11-2007 was 94ºF. Minimum temperature on 3-11-2007 was 77ºF. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 3-11-2007 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 2-11-2007 was (4.49) hours. Rainfall on 5-11-2007 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (136) inches at Mingaladon, (140) inches at Kaba-Aye and (142) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southeast at (14:30) hours MST on 2-11-2007.

Bay influence: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea, North and Soft Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal. Forecast valid until evening of 3-11-2007: Rain or thunder-showers are likely to be fairly widespread in Kachin, Chin, Shan and Mon States, upper Sagain, Mandalay and Tanintharyi Division, scattered in Rakhine State, Magway and lower Sagain Divisions and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%). State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of continuation of rain or thunder-showers in the Northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 4-11-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thunder-showers. Degree of certainty is (60%). Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 4-11-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thunder-showers. Degree of certainty is (60%). Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 4-11-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thunder-showers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Tune in today
5:45 am News/Editorial
8:35 am Music
9:40 am Perspectives
8:45 am Music
9:00 am National news/Slogan
9:10 am Weather report
9:20 pm News/Slogan
9:40 pm Children’s delight(story)
9:50 pm News/Slogan
10:00 pm PEL

WEATHER

Sunday, 4 November, 2007

View on today
7:00 am
1. National song
2. English news
3. Song of national races
4. Myanmar Video Feature:

1:00 pm
1. National song
2. Musical programme
3. 3rd round of the week’s international news
4. Myanmar Video Feature:

4:00 pm
1. National song
2. News
3. Sports news
4. Myanmar Video Feature:

7:00 pm
1. National song
2. News
3. Cultural images
4. Myanmar Video Feature:

10:00 pm
1. National song
2. News
3. Myanmar Video Feature:

PHOTO

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* Published by the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information, Union of Myanmar. Edited and printed at The New Light of Myanmar Press, No 49/220 Strand Road at 43rd Street, Yangon. Cable Newlight, PO Box No 43, Telephones: Editors 392308, Manager 392226, Circulation 392304, Advertisement 392223, Accounts 392224, Administration 392225, Production/Press 392369

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People’s Desire

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

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

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 expatriates earning dollar rewards
  - Only saboteurs reap the benefits

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