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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

State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

YANGON, 9 Sept—Mr Mohammed Khairuzzaman, newly accredited Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinthta at 10 am today.

Also present on the occasion were State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department.

MNA



Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe receives newly accredited Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr Mohammed Khairuzzaman at Zeyathiri Beikman.

MNA

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Mr Mohammed Khairuzzaman, newly accredited Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, at Zeyathiri Beikman.—MNA



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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 10 September, 2005

Strive for success of Continuing Education Programmes

The State Peace and Development Council is making all-out efforts for the nation to stand shoulder to shoulder with the global community, while endeavouring to achieve national objective for uplifting health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation.

In this regard, systematic measures are being taken for enhancement of modern science and technology in each and every sector, producing more academicians and technicians in various fields, ensuring literacy for all citizens and literacy in sustainable development and providing access to permanent learning at any time for people of all ages for creating a constant learning society.

Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivered an address at the ceremony to mark the 2005 International Literacy Day and United Nations Literacy Decade at the Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road in Yangon on 8 September.

In his address, the Secretary-1 said that nowadays, it is no longer enough to teach learners writing, reading and calculating a lone, and such kind of learning is not knowledge; that it is just a tool for pursuing knowledge; only when knowledge accrued from learning is applied for development and prosperity of human beings will the life of the people be peaceful and improved.

The literacy rate has increased year by year thanks to constant efforts of the entire national people in the drive for ensuring literacy for all citizens.

The country-wise literacy campaign could help increase the literacy rate of adults from 83 per cent in 1996 to 93.3 per cent in 2004. Under the 2005 summer literacy special programme, altogether 203,293 illiterate persons became literate and adult literacy rate has increased up to 94.1 per cent.

In conjunction with literacy movement, to upgrade the role of literacy in sustainable development, generate more family income and to improve quality of life of the literate people, Continuing Education Programmes are being conducted systematically.

Various education centres in rural regions contribute much to regional development as well as enhancement of the living standard of local people.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon the entire national people including officials of the education sector to strive together with the government with national outlook and nationalism for success of Continuing Education Programmes.

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People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Industry-1 Minister receives Chinese guests

YANGON, 9 Sept— Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thuang received Chongqing Metals & Minerals Import/Export Corporation President Ms Yuan Chang Yu and party at the ministry yesterday evening.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister for Industry 1 Brig-Gen Thein Tun, advisers, Directors-General, Managing Directors and Directors of the departments and enterprises.



MNA Minister U Aung Thuang meets with Ms Yuan Chang Yu and party. — INDUSTRY-1

Karatedo course opens



President Dr Win Zaw of Myanmar Karatedo Federation delivering an address at the opening ceremony of Karatedo technical course. — MKF

MCPA organizes annual conference

YANGON, 9 Sept — The seminars in commemoration of the annual conference of Myanmar Computer Professionals Association were held at MICT Park in Hline Township this morning.

Present were Vice-Chairman of E-National Task Force U Aung Myint, executives of Myanmar Computer Federation, Myanmar Computer Entrepreneurs Association, MCPA and Myanmar Computer Enthusiasts Association and people.

Deputy Director-General U Tun Lwin of Hydrology and Meteorology Department, Professor Col Dr Nay Soe Maung of Defence and Medical Science Department, U Thurein Nyein of MMRD, U Min Teza of Managing Partner and Chief Editor U Kyaw Min Swe of Living Colour Media discussed their respective topics and answered the

queries raised by those present.

Next, MCF President U Thein Oo, Vice-President U Tin Win Aung, Chairman of MCPA U Thuang Tin and MCEA Chairman U Aung Zaw Myint replied to the questions of the interested persons.

In the evening, the dinner to mark the anniversary of MCPA was held at International Business Centre on Pyay Road.

MNA

YANGON, 9 Sept — Under the arrangements of the Myanmar Karatedo Federation, a Japanese expert of Karatedo event is giving training to 59 Myanmar athletes beginning today at Aung San Gymnasium. Learning Karatedo techniques from the Japanese trainer, Mr Takuya Taniyama, are 48 male and 11 female trainees from 15 ministries, 16 states and divisions, and 10 clubs. MKF President Dr Win Zaw gave a speech at the opening ceremony of the Karatedo technical course attended by patrons and officials of sports federations and guests. — MNA

The annual conference of Myanmar Computer Professionals Association in progress. — MCPA



Putin meets Chinese Defence Chief, praises bilateral ties

SOCHI (Russia), 8 Sept — Russian President Vladimir Putin praised ties with China and urged greater joint efforts to boost bilateral relations on Wednesday during his meeting here with visiting Chinese Defence Minister Cao Gangchuan.

Russian-Chinese ties are at a historical high and the strategic partnership between the two countries is crucial to the relations, Putin told Cao, who arrived in the Black Sea resort earlier from Moscow, where he had met his Russian counterpart Sergei Ivanov and Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov.

Links between the Armed Forces of the two countries conduce to boosting their defence capabilities, the Russian leader said, urging the two countries' military to work closely to benefit further growth of bilateral ties.

Putin praised the capabilities of both Armed Forces in last month's joint military exercises.

China and Russia held their first joint military exercises, code-named "Peace Mission 2005", from 18-25 August. The one-week manoeuvres, which started in Russia's Far East and later moved to East

China's Shandong Peninsula, involved 10,000 troops from both countries.

Cao, for his part, said China and Russia, as permanent members of the UN Security Council, shoulder major responsibilities for safeguarding world peace and promoting common prosperity.

Cooperative ties between the two Armed Forces are expanding as the strategic partnership of the two countries continues to grow, the Chinese defence chief said.

The joint drills demonstrated a new level of mutual trust in political, military and security ties and have laid a firm foundation for deepening cooperation in national defence and security, Cao said. He pledged greater efforts to boost bilateral ties.

Cao arrived in Moscow on Monday on a five-day visit to Russia. — *MNA/Xinhua*



India to buy 43 planes from Airbus for \$2.2b

NEW DELHI, 8 Sept — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said on Wednesday his government had cleared the purchase of 43 aircraft from European plane maker Airbus for state-run Indian Airlines.

"The value of this contract will be in the region of 2.2 billion US dollars," Singh, accompanied by British Prime Minister Tony Blair, told a news conference in New Delhi.

The deal will allow Indian Airlines to retire older jets as it tries to win back market share from nimble private carriers such as Jet Airways and Kingfisher Airlines.

Airbus is 80 per cent owned by European Aeronautical Defence & Space Co N V, based in Germany and France, and 20 per cent owned by British defence contractor BAE Systems Plc.

The Indian Government had set up a panel to renegotiate prices to get a better deal.

An Indian Aviation Ministry official, who did not want to be named, said New Delhi had managed to negotiate a "sizeable reduction" in the final price of the planes.

— *MNA/Reuters*

Musharraf calls for peaceful resolution of Iran's nuclear issue

ISLAMABAD, 8 Sept — Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf on Wednesday stressed the need to observe international legality and resolve Iran's nuclear issue peacefully, according to a statement issued by the Foreign Office.

"Pakistan, being a friend and immediate neighbour of Iran, wishes an early peaceful end to this issue," Musharraf said at a meeting with Ali Larijani, secretary to the Supreme National Security Council of Iran who called on him later Wednesday.

Musharraf also expressed the hope that Iran-EU dialogue will be resumed and pursued to a successful conclusion.

He said that Pakistan values its relations with Iran. As immediate neighbours sharing strong commonalities of history, faith and culture, the two countries have great potential and should spare no effort to further strengthen bilateral cooperation, he said.

Larijani, who arrived here early Wednesday morning to seek Pakistan's support for the continuation of Iran's nuclear programme, briefed Musharraf on the policies of the new Iranian Government. He conveyed the desire of the Iranian leadership to further intensify cooperation in various areas of mutual interest. Larijani appreciated Pakistan's positive role at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to help resolve controversy over Iran's nuclear programme. He said Iran has seriously pursued its dialogue with IAEA to reach an amicable solution.

— *MNA/Xinhua*

China offers help in enhancing safety of Malacca Strait

JAKARTA, 8 Sept — The Chinese Government is ready to participate in international cooperation and contribute its share for maintaining and enhancing the safe navigation of the Malacca Strait with dominant role of the littoral states, an official said here on Wednesday.

"China, as one of the main users of the Strait, has always attached great importance to the safe passage of the Strait and has shown great concerns over the safe navigation and prevention of pollution caused by ships of the Strait," said Ju Chengzhi, the director general of China's Ministry of Transportation. Ju was in Jakarta to lead the Chinese delegation in the two-day meeting on the Strait of Malacca and Singapore, attended also by delegates from 29 countries.

The Chinese Government, he said, supports the efforts and the dominant role of the littoral states — Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore — in safeguarding the sovereignty and security of the Malacca Strait pursuant to the UN Charter and other accepted international law.

"However, we have also been aware that the littoral states are facing increasing challenges from the continuing growth of maritime traffic to maintain the safe navigation of the Strait and their resources being strained," he said.

"The Chinese Government will consider to mobilize resources within our means to assist the littoral states at their request in the areas of capacity building, technical exchanges and personal training," he said. — *MNA/Xinhua*



An Apple Computer Inc employee holds the new digital music player 'iPod Nano' at a news conference in Tokyo on 8 September, 2005.—INTERNET



Members of the South Carolina game warden patrols on a boat during a rescue mission in the Gentilly neighborhood of New Orleans, Louisiana on 7 September, 2005. — INTERNET

1,895 US troops killed in Iraq since beginning of the war

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept — As of Thursday, 8 Sept, 2005, at least 1,895 members of the US military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an *Associated Press* count. At least 1,470 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers. The figures include five military civilians.

The AP count is five higher than the Defence Department's tally, last updated at 10 am EDT on Thursday.

The British military has reported 95 deaths; Italy, 26; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; El Salvador, Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since 1 May, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,756 US military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,361 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.—INTERNET



A man looks at part of a gigantic stamp mosaic, measuring 6.45 metres long and 3.97 metres high, featuring the skyline of Hong Kong island, displayed at Hong Kong Post Headquarters in Hong Kong on 8 September, 2005.—INTERNET

ဝက်ပစ္စည်းအား ခေတ်တော်လွှား

Malaysia to host NAM Information Ministers conference

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 Sept — Malaysia will host the Sixth Conference of the Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries (COMINAC) this November, a senior official said on Tuesday.

The conference, themed "Advancing Communication and Information Collaboration Toward A More Dynamic NAM", is scheduled to be held in Kuala Lumpur on 19-22 November, Malaysian Minister of Information Abdul Kadir

Sheikh Fadzir said.

One of the highlights of the conference will be the possibility of setting up a practical and effective news organization or exchange among member countries of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), Abdul Kadir

told reporters here. This would enable NAM member countries to have an effective exchange of news and information as many of the news sources are from Western countries now, Abdul Kadir said.

MNA/Xinhua

Tropical storm "Ophelia" strengthens off florida

MIAMI, 9 Sept — Tropical Storm Ophelia strengthened slightly off Florida's Atlantic Coast on Wednesday and seemed likely to turn away from land but its path was too uncertain to rule out a strike on Florida or Georgia, forecasters said.

Tropical storm warnings were in effect for a 120-mile stretch of shoreline from Sebastian Inlet to Flagler Beach in Florida, alerting residents to expect the storm within 24 hours.

Ophelia coalesced overnight from a loose swirling mass of thunderstorms and had top winds of 45 miles per hour. Forecasters at the National Hurricane Center said it could dump three to eight inches of rain on parts of central and north Florida and southeastern Georgia.

At 8 am (1200 GMT), Ophelia was centred about 80 miles (130 kilometres) east of Cape Canaveral, Florida, and moving north-northwest.

MNA/Reuters

India-China to sign MoU on intelligence sharing

NEW DELHI, 8 Sept — India and China will sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for cooperation in intelligence sharing and exchange of security-related information during the five-day visit of India's Home Minister Shivraj Patil to that country beginning on Wednesday.

An approval in this regard was given by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), which is the apex body on security affairs, at a meeting chaired by Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee told reporters on Tuesday.

The MoU on intelligence sharing and exchange of security related information is to combat crimes like terrorism. Patil's five-day visit is a

bilateral tour at the invitation of Chinese Public Security Minister Zhou Yongkang.

On his first official visit to China, the Indian Home Minister will hold talks with Zhou and is likely to meet Premier Wen Jiabao there.

Patil will also visit Beijing Police Training Academy and meet Shanghai Mayor besides attending a meeting on emergency response to calamities.

The issues to figure in the talks are cooperation in fight against terrorism, disaster management and public security.

The visit of the Home Minister is part of the process of continuing high-level bilateral ex-

changes and will contribute to the further development and diversification of bilateral relations in accordance with the declaration of June 2003 and the joint statement of April 2005.

MNA/Xinhua

Four Britons killed in roadside bomb in Basra

BAGHDAD, 8 Sept — A roadside bomb detonated on Wednesday near a convoy of four-wheel drive vehicles usually used by foreign contractors in Iraq's southern city of Basra, an Interior Ministry source said.

"An improvised explosion device detonated at about 9:00 am (0500 GMT) and hit a convoy of sport utility vehicles (SUV), destroying an SUV and killing four civilian Britons on the busy highway of Gzaiyya," the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

A white four-wheel drive vehicle was overturned on a railroad after it fell from the highway by the powerful blast, the source quoted Basra police reports as saying.

However, a British Embassy spokeswoman in Baghdad denied any casualties among British diplomats and military personnel in Basra, some 550 kilometres south of Baghdad.

"No British national involved in the incident this morning in Basra," the spokeswoman told Xinhua without elaboration. — MNA/Xinhua

China strengthens control of poppy seeds

BEIJING, 8 Sept — Five Chinese central government departments have jointly declared a ban on sales of poppy seeds and related food products on the market.

Recently, some dealers advertised the functions and advantages of poppy seeds in sales promotion of poppy seed dressings such as jam, which has seriously misled the consumers, said the Ministry of Health on Wednesday.

The ministry did not give examples of such misleading advertising.

The ministries of Health and Agriculture, the State Food and Drug Administration, the State Administration of Quality Supervision and Quarantine, and the State Administration for Industry and Commerce jointly announced the ban on sales of poppy seeds and relevant food, noting poppy seeds can only be used to

extract edible oil.

The announcement said the only legal company for poppy seed oil is Nongken Co. Ltd. of northwest China's Gansu Province, but the poppy seeds produced by this company cannot be sold in market either.

The joint announcement also said poppy seed oil should be controlled

by the government as a kind of new resource food, which has to be tested before sale. The package and advertisement of poppy seed oil should abide by law. No organization or individual is allowed to import poppy seed and poppy seed dressing, it noted, calling on local authorities to strengthen control.—MNA/Xinhua

Iraq rebuilding under threat as US runs out of money

BAGHDAD, 9 Sept—Key rebuilding projects in Iraq are grinding to a halt because American money is running out and security has diverted funds intended for electricity, water and sanitation, according to US officials.

Plans to overhaul the country's infrastructure have been downsized, postponed or abandoned because the \$24bn (£13bn) budget approved by Congress has been dwarfed by the scale of the task.

"We have scaled back our projects in many areas," James Jeffrey, a senior state department adviser on Iraq, told a congressional committee in Washington, in remarks quoted by the Los Angeles Times. "We do not have the money."

Water and sanitation have been particularly badly hit. According to a re-

port published this week by Government Accountability Office, the investigative branch of Congress, \$2.6bn has been spent on water projects, half the original budget, after the rest was diverted to security and other uses.

The report said "attacks, threats and intimidation against project contractors and subcontractors" were to blame. A quarter of the \$200m-worth of completed US-funded water projects handed over to the Iraqi authorities no longer worked properly because of "looting, unreliable electricity or inadequate Iraqi staff and supplies", the report found.—Internet



Iraqi police survey the scene after a late-night explosion in the southern Iraqi city of Basra, on 7 September, 2005. —INTERNET

UN report says leaders have last chance to save poor

LONDON, 8 Sept— World leaders have a last chance to fulfil promises to reduce poverty and boost health by 2015 or risk being damned by history for condemning millions of children to death, a UN report said on Wednesday.

The warning was issued a week before heads of state and government from 175 countries gather in New York to gauge progress on meeting the Millennium Development Goals in the face of attempts by the United States to declare them null and void.

"If this summit fails, there really is no way back," said Kevin Watkins, lead author of the UN's Human Development Report.

World leaders agreed in 2000 on a series of goals to be reached by 2015, including halving the number of people living in extreme poverty, cutting deaths of children under five by two-thirds and achieving universal primary education.

"If this summit doesn't produce a strong commitment to strengthen cooperation around the Millennium Development Goals...then we may as well forget the project," Watkins said.

"If that happens that would be an

absolutely shocking indictment of the international community, and in particular of the key governments that failed to cooperate to deliver on the promises," he told a news conference to publish the 2005 report.

The annual report painted a dismal picture. Watkins said one child died from poverty every three seconds, 1.2 billion people were living on less than one US dollar a day and, at current rates of progress, 47 million children would not be in school by 2015.

The cumulative effect of failing to reach the target for cutting child deaths would mean 41 million extra and avoidable deaths over the next decade, the report said.

The UN report said 50 countries, with a combined population of 900 million, were actually moving backwards on at least one of the development goals.

MNA/Reuters



Iraqi police survey the scene following an explosion in Baghdad, on 8 September, 2005. —INTERNET

“Nabi” hits hard S Korea’s eastern coast areas

SEOUL, 8 Sept — Typhoon Nabi beat South Korea's eastern coast areas with rain and strong winds on Wednesday, forcing over 1,000 people to evacuate.

About 1,100 people on the southern and eastern coasts were forced to leave their homes, reported South Korean *Yonhap* news agency.

Nabi, the 14th storm of this year, also grounded many flights, blocked trains and ferry services and closed down highways along the South Korean southern and eastern coastlines, while leaving tens of

thousands of houses without electricity.

Cities hit hardest were Ulsan and Pohang, some 400 kilometres southeast to Seoul, on the eastern coast, where 130 buildings and 10 roads were flooded in the downpour, said *Yonhap*.

About 26,000 households experienced electricity shortages in Ulsan.

In Busan, South Ko-

rea's second-largest city, the typhoon downed signboards, uprooted trees and tore down the walls of houses, television footage showed. Nabi went ashore on the southern part region of Japan on late Tuesday.

South Korean weather forecast authorities predicted the country will be fully out of the typhoon's influence around Thursday. — MNA/Xinhua

Saudi FM calls for building world anti-terror centre

RIYADH, 8 Sept— Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal on Tuesday called for building an international anti-terror centre.

Faisal made the call to world leaders who will gather in New York for the 60th UN General Assembly in mid-September.

Terrorism poses a big threat to global peace, security and international development and has

brought great sufferings to many countries in the world, said Faisal.

Saudi Arabia proposed the building of the anti-terror centre during a conference on terrorism in February, which was attended by 45 states and

eight regional and international organizations, including the UN, he added.

The top Saudi diplomat said his country will seek the endorsement of this proposal at the coming UN General Assembly. — MNA/Xinhua



Tourists ride through floodwaters in Phnom Penh on 7 September, 2005. Heavy rainfall overburdened the capital's old sewer systems, causing floods in the capital. —INTERNET

Bungled car bomb kills four in south Afghanistan

KABUL, 8 Sept— A car exploded in a southern Afghan town on Wednesday, killing its three occupants and a passerby, in what appeared to be a bungled suicide attack, a provincial official said.

Security has been stepped up across Afghanistan in the run-up to 18 September elections that have been denounced by Taleban guerillas, who have been battling US and government forces since their ouster in 2001.

The car was passing a policeman's house in the town of Girishk when it exploded but that was not believed to have been the target, said Mohammed Wali Alizai, spokesman for

the Helmand provincial governor.

"It seems their aim was to carry out a suicide on attack on the Americans but it went off early," Alizai said.

"The car was completely destroyed, it's in pieces," he said.

The United States has 20,000 troops in Afghanistan, most of whom are focusing on election security, as are 10,000 NATO-led peacekeepers

and tens of thousands of government forces.

More than 1,000 people, most of them guerillas but including 49 American soldiers, have been killed this year, the bloodiest period since US-led forces arrived. The parliamentary and provincial elections are the final part of a plan meant to restore democratic government and stability in Afghanistan after 25 years of conflict. — MNA/Reuters

India struggles with encephalitis outbreak, 600 dead

LUCKNOW (India), 8 Sept— Indian authorities are struggling to cope with an encephalitis epidemic in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh where more than 600 people have died from the disease, a health official said on Wednesday.

The encephalitis outbreak, which erupted in late July, is centred in the eastern part of Uttar Pradesh, but has also spread to the state capital, Lucknow.

"The management of patients is becoming in-

creasingly difficult. There is no let up in new patients nor in the death toll," K.P. Kushwaha, a senior doctor in a state-run medical college in Gorakhpur Town, told *Reuters*.

Kushwaha said 31 people had died since Monday

in the medical college alone. Most of those who have died are children. Symptoms include high fever, severe headaches and convulsions.

Officials said doctors and nurses in government hospitals in the densely-

populated region were unable to cope with the flow of patients. "We are terribly short of doctors and nurses," Kushwaha said. "The available staff have to perform double duties but there is a limit to their stamina." —MNA/Reuters

Nat'l Museum of China strengthens cooperation with British Museum

BEIJING, 8 Sept — Curators of the National Museum of China and the British Museum signed a memorandum of understanding here on Tuesday to strengthen exchanges and cooperation in the fields of exhibition and research.

The memorandum says the British Museum (BM) is expecting to show the highlights of its worldwide collections to audiences in Beijing at the National Museum of China (NMC) when it reopens after its renovation and enlargement in 2008.

MNA/Xinhua

IT's stupid to be afraid of China's development

BERLIN, 8 Sept— A shift of the world's economic centre of gravity from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific is inevitable but it's stupid to be afraid of China's development, Singaporean political mentor Lee Kuan Yew has said.

"Economically, there will be a shift to the Pacific from the Atlantic Ocean and you can already see that in the shipping volumes of Chinese ports," Lee said in a recent exclusive interview with German-language weekly *Der Spiegel*.

"Every shipping line is trying to get into association with a Chinese container port," he noted.

China is learning very fast from the developed world, but it is not the reason for other countries to be afraid, said the first-ever Prime Minister of Singapore.

"In 50 years I see China, (South) Korea and Japan at the high-tech end of the value chain," he said.

"Look at the numbers and quality of the engineers and scientists they produce and you know that this is where the R&D will be done. The Chinese have a space programme, they are going to put a man on the moon and

nobody sold them that technology," said Lee.

When asked about how afraid the West should be of China's rise, Lee said: "It's stupid to be afraid."

He noted that the developed world is leading in many fields which the Chinese cannot catch up with for many years, if not decades.

"In pharmaceuticals, I don't see them catching up with the Germans for a long time."

Lee Kuan Yew believed that China does not intend to enhance its influence through military means but economic competition.

"They will trade, they will not demand, 'This is my sphere of influence, you keep out,'" said Lee. "I think they have calculated that they need 30 to 40 — maybe 50 years of peace and quiet to catch up (with the developed world)," he said. — *MNA/Xinhua*

France to boost sentences under new terrorism law

PARIS, 8 Sept— The French Government plans to increase jail terms for those convicted of belonging to terrorist organizations under a new anti-terrorism law, the Justice Ministry said on Wednesday.

Under the law, to be presented to the Cabinet in October, sentences for "running and organizing a terrorist organization" could rise to 30 from 20 years, a ministry spokesman said.

Following the bombings in London on 7 July, Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy said France planned to reinforce its information-gathering procedures and crack down on militants.

His ministry has said the new law would include measures on video surveillance and the storage of telephone data.

Someone convicted of being involved in a life-threatening attack as a member of a terrorist group could face 15 or 20 years in prison, up from 10 at the moment, the ministry said.

MNA/Reuters

APEC Finance Ministers' Meeting kicks off in S Korea

JEJU ISLAND (South Korea), 8 Sept— The 12th APEC (Asia-Pacific Economy Cooperation) Finance Ministers' Meeting (FMM) kicked off its two-day official sessions on Thursday morning at the South Korean southernmost resort Jeju Island.

Finance ministers or senior finance officials from the APEC 21-member economies as well as high level representatives from Asia Development Bank, International Monetary Fund and World Bank attended the opening session of the 2005 APEC FMM at Shilla Hotel in southern Jeju Island.

This year's APEC FMM has two themes: "Free and stable movement of capital" and "Meet the challenges of aging economies".

South Korean Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economy Han Duck-soo delivered opening remarks, which called on APEC members to take measures to curb high oil prices, imbalance in the global economy and real estate price's surge.

"Rising demand despite supply constraints is

the main cause that is pushing the oil prices up," Han pointed out, adding "speculative demand and lack of transparency in the market information" are also contributing to the consistent rise of oil prices.

The South Korean Deputy Prime Minister urged "oil producing and consuming economies to join their efforts to bring demand and supply into balance", since high oil prices, "in a long term, undermine economic growth and deepen global uncertainties, threatening both oil producing and consuming economies".

Han continued to say that global economic imbalance is another risk that APEC members face.

Shared responsibilities among the member economies were urged to resolve imbalance in the

global economy.

Han also said APEC members should keep close watch on the rising real estate prices.

"Each government should closely monitor the movements of real estate prices and the macro-economy, and take necessary measures," said Han.

"In addition, resolving obstacles to capital movements and addressing the possible challenges that would be brought by population aging are also important issues that call for attention," stressed Han.

The South Korean Deputy Premier also pointed out the need for APEC economies to "develop more cooperation projects into agreements and concrete actions" to achieve the growth of the APEC and global economy.

MNA/Xinhua



A 13 year old Indian boy sits inside the premises of a school with his monkeys in the northern Indian city of Chandigarh on 8 September, 2005.

INTERNET

Chile tries to kick teen smoking habit with new law

VALPARAISO (Chile), 8 Sept— A corner of Nueva York and Moneda streets in downtown Santiago fills up every morning with young teenagers in school uniforms smoking cigarettes.

It could be almost any city corner in this South American country, which has the highest rate of teen-age girls smoking in the Western Hemisphere, a habit lawmakers want to kick with a tough new anti-smoking law set for a Senate vote this week. "All of my friends smoke, all of them," says 15-year-old Camila, a cigarette dangling awkwardly from her lips.

"I just started smoking last month," she says, adding that since her grandmother died of cancer she tries to smoke only on weekends.

Most Chileans have their first cigarette at age 15, says the government's National Narcotics Control Council, known as Conace. Overall, 26 per cent of teen-age girls and 55 per cent of Chilean women aged 19-25 smoke.

The new law, expected to pass easily, aims to stop girls like Camila from picking up the habit by imposing restrictions that have had some success in

cutting smoking in countries such as the United States and Canada.

Legislators have been working on new smoking rules since March, when Chile made a commitment to the World Health Organization to bring anti-smoking legislation in line with other member countries.

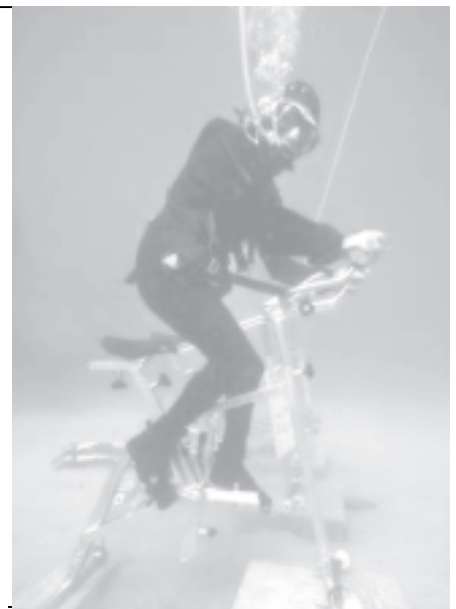
Anti-smoking groups say it will not be easy in a country with a powerful tobacco industry, an entrenched habit and where smoking among women has risen in the last 10 years.

The new law would prohibit smoking in public places such as airports and hospitals and in all government buildings, and limit smoking areas in bars and restaurants. It would also limit where tobacco firms can advertise, and prohibit the sale of cigarettes near schools.

The law would require graphic anti-smoking warnings on 40 per cent of the surface area of cigarette packages, which now carry a small cancer warning in gold-coloured letters. — *MNA/Reuters*

Italian scuba diver Stefano Barbaresi, 37, tries out an exercise cycle after his descent while taking part in a scientific experiment aimed at determining the effects of living underwater for a prolonged periods, off the Italian island of Ponza on 7 September, 2005.

INTERNET



Pakokku region with bright future

U Zaw

Prime Minister General Soe Win made an inspection tour of Pakokku region on the west bank of Ayeyawady River on 12 August 2005, visiting regional development and greening tasks and irrigation projects.

Pakokku District is formed with five townships — Pakokku, Yesagyo, Pauk, Myaing and Seikphyu — in which, 1.35 million people live in their 34 wards and 1,205 village. The rural population of the district is six times larger than that of the urban areas as nearly 1.2 million people are rural dwellers. Pakokku District is the second most populous region in Magway Division after Magway District.

As the district puts less than 100,000 acres under paddy per year, its local food sufficiency is only over 30 per cent. Thus, it is relying mainly on the neighbouring Gangaw District to get rice.

The maximum annual rain fall of Pakokku District is only about 25 inches. And the region is seeing an unusual drought this rainy season. As water resources are scarce, large dams are impossible in the district.

Although large creeks such as Kyaw and Yaw pass through the district, there are limits to use their waters for irrigation. Moreover, it is important to tap and conserve the natural resources, as nature conservation and regional development have interrelations. The ongoing dry regional greening project covers the task of beautifying Tantkyi, Tetma and Kyaukhsin hills lying in Pakokku District, and small dams are being built at possible places and water pumping stations installed along the banks of Ayeyawady and Chindwin rivers



Prime Minister General Soe Win views the sinking of a tube-well in Pauk. — MNA

flowing in the region. The regional development projects are not based on economic profits, but on serving the long-term interest of the nation and the people.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe during his visit to Magway Division said, "Poverty is high, in Pakokku, Mahlaing, Wundwin, Thazi and Salingyi of the dry zone covering Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions, when compared with others, due to social hardships resulting from water and food shortages.

addressed by fully harnessing the regional land and water resources.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, officials are paying special attention to greening the two plains. Although both are dry plains, their topographies are different from each other. Concerning the effectiveness of the small-scale irrigation projects, Prime Minister General Soe Win said, "Although water supply projects in Pakokku region are small in size, they have been built with the lofty aims of collecting water from

will build 29 more dams in the current year. The 47 dams and the 51 reservoirs will irrigate about 9,500 acres of monsoon paddy. The maximum irrigation capacity of a small-scale dam is from 300 to 400 acres. But the combined capacity of a number of small-scale dams will be as effective and large as a big dam. The region cannot achieve sustainable progress, without the efforts of man to conserve and add value to the natural resources. Small-scale and mini-dams should be built in other dry regions.

stage are added, the combined capacity of all the 15 stations will be about 40,000 acres.

Pakokku region will be able to put 150,000 acres of land under paddy in the near future. But extra efforts are still needed to ensure food sufficiency in the region, which will be important for the locals of the region and will help benefit the nation.

It has been nearly ten years since the government has been building required infrastructures for Pakokku to become the capital of the west bank of Ayeyawady, development of the whole Pakokku District, improvement of transport links, production of healthy and fit intellectuals, supplying water for general purposes, and development of the district together with the southern part of Chin State. Thanks to the sound infrastructural development, the fruits local people are enjoying are immeasurable. The government has been dutifully developing the west bank of the Ayeyawady that lagged behind in progress in the past. Due to the ardent efforts, the urban and rural water supply project has reached to a certain point of success. The entire Pakokku District will have access to safe potable water in the near future, and the

achievement will improve the health and social standards of the locals, and free the people from water-borne diseases.

More water supply means extra crops for regional food sufficiency and economic progress. Running of livestock farms in addition to agriculture will surely increase the rural income. The district is also raising over 300,000 sheep and over 220,000 pigs. Developments in livestock breeding will help reduce poverty in the rural areas.

Pakokku Industrial Zone is gathering strength, while assembling jeeps and trucks and manufacturing a wide array of goods. The zone is receiving more and more orders from nearby State-owned industries. The emergence of Pakokku Textile Factory has generated more job opportunities and disseminated technological know-how. Private industries are doing well in Pakokku region.

All in all, the economic, health, education, transport and greening sectors of Pakokku region will continue to bear fruits, and the entire west bank is entering a new age of prosperity.

(Translation: TMT)
Kyemon+Myanma
Alin: 9.9.2005.

Pakokku Industrial Zone is gathering strength, while assembling jeeps and trucks and manufacturing a wide array of goods. The zone is receiving more and more orders from nearby State-owned industries. The emergence of Pakokku Textile Factory has generated more job opportunities and disseminated technological know-how. Private industries are doing well in Pakokku region.

Water resources should be sought and exploited to the most possible degree to ensure adequate water supply in the regions. Livestock breeding should be conducted in addition to agriculture to reduce poverty."

The Senior General also visited Pakokku and Meiktila plains to study their situations in summer and prospects to grow crops, and made arrangements for officials at different levels to tour the areas. Poverty will be

all available resources for regional development. The small-scale dams are being built in the interest of the region and local people."

A target was set to build 47 small-scale dams and 24 rural mini-reservoirs for extending rice cultivation and regional greening in Pakokku District with the help of Irrigation Department. Up to this date, the rural people have built 51 mini-reservoirs, and the ID 18 small-scale dams. The ID

Water Resources Utilization Department on its part has been erecting water pumping stations along the banks of Ayeyawady and Chindwin rivers flowing in Pakokku District. Eight pumping stations — two in Pakokku Township, five in Yesagyo Township, and one in Pauk Township — are irrigating about 20,000 acres of crops. If the capacities of four stations under construction and three under planning



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects the thriving Shweyina paddy strains at the entrance to Mongpon. — MNA

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects agricultural...

(from page 16)

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win held a meeting with officers and other ranks at Maukmai Station. In his address, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said mobilizing the participation of the entire national people, the government has been taking steps in all spheres for ensuring peace and stability, national solidarity and strong national economy.

At the same time, Tamtadaw members have been upholding Our Three Main National Causes and endeavouring with might and main to implement the tasks for community peace and tranquillity and regional development in harness with local people.

As a result, the entire nation including Shan State has seen stability and peace and economic progress. So, in response to the goodwill of the Government, local people are to contribute towards the implementation of the State's seven-point Road Map. Next, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win presented a TV to the station and had a cordial conversation with Tatmadawmen.

He also met with service personnel, members of social organizations and townsenders at Namyun Hall in Maukmai. Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win said that Maukmai Region has enjoyed fruitful results in

the agricultural sector to a certain extent. He called for extended cultivation of high-yield strains of crops through modern agricultural methods for local food security in line with the guidance. He urged local people to join hands harmoniously with departmental officials in carrying out regional development projects, and departmental officials, to give the priority to the interests of the regions where they have been assigned duties.

Of 36,113 cultivated acres in total in Maukmai Township, Shan State (South), there include 6,971 acres of paddy, 2,794 acres of crops, 102 acres of gardening, and

1,099 acres of hill-side cultivation. And there are 6,615 acres of fallow land, 47,703 acres of vacant land, 87,949 acres of forests, 339,320 acres of reserved forests and other 87,530 acres totalling 605,239 acres.

In 2005-2006, the region has put 23,885 acres under paddy, 2,700 acres under summer paddy, 2,505 acres under groundnut, 2,645 acres under sesame, one acre under green gram, 68 acres under pigeon pea, 457 acres

under sugarcane, and 1,072 acres under corn.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party inspected thriving paddy fields in Makyaing Village, Wanhat Village-tract, Langkho Township.

MNA



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win hands over cash donation for Namhsan MCWA to Daw Kyi Htay, wife of Brig-Gen Thura Myint Thein. — MNA

Minister inspects Kanbawzathadi

YANGON, 9 Sept — Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung visited Kanbawzathadi Palace in Bago today, and inspected a replica of the royal coach drawn by 16 stallions.

After observing the royal audience hall where the coach will be placed, the minister spoke of the need to replicate ancient artifacts according to historical records and display

them systematically.

Accompanied by Director-General of Archaeology Department U Kyaw Win and officials, the minister viewed a replica of the Karaweik barge in a pond in the palace compound and landscaping work.

He also inspected arrangements being made for the greening of the environs of the palace. — MNA



Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Kyi Aung visits Kanbawzathadi Palace in Bago — MNA

Workshop on updating reproductive and sexual health modules of medical curriculum held

YANGON, 9 Sept — A workshop on updating the reproductive and sexual health modules of medical curriculum was held at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here this morning, with an opening address by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo. The workshop was organized by the Medical Science Department, WHO and UNFPA.

The opening ceremony was attended by directors general and deputy directors general of the departments under the Health Ministry, rectors, directors, professors, officials of Directorate of Medical Services of the Ministry of Defence, Dr Josephine Sauvarin of WHO (Geneva Headquarters), WHO Resident Representative Professor Adik Wibowo, UNFPA Resident Representative Mr Daniel Baker and guests.

In his opening speech Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo said more than 99 percent of women who die during their pregnancy and while having their

babies are from developing countries. The cause of their deaths includes delivering babies with the help of unskilled midwives and inadequate health care during pregnancy. He said although there were 90 percent of women who delivered their babies with trained, skilled midwives in cities, the number of those in rural villages had not yet reached 50 percent. That is why the Ministry of Health initiated national health reproductive policies in 2003. And consequently, health conditions of pregnant women have improved significantly. For the improvement of obstetric and gynecological branches, medical curricula have been updated in medical universities in accord with the directive of the WHO, said the deputy minister. Then he stressed the need for constant updating of medical curricula and use of modern teaching methods.

Later, Prof Adik Wibowo and Mr Daniel Baker made speeches.

MNA

Minister for Religious Affairs receives Chairman of Myanmar-Korea Buddhist Association



Ven Mok Tak calls on Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung. — MNA

YANGON, 9 Sept — Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung received visiting Chairman of Myanmar-Korea Buddhist Association Ven Mok Tak at the Ministry of Religious Affairs on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, here, this morning.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko, Director-General U Myo Kyaw of Religious Affairs Department, Director-General Dr Myo Myint of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, deputy directors-general, the head of office and officials. **MNA**

HIV/AIDS control mass activities launched

YANGON, 9 Sept — The Union Solidarity and Development Association and the Ministry of Health organized mass activities on HIV/AIDS control in Yangon City this morning.

USDA CEC Member Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, CEC Member Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Director-General of the Health Department Dr Tin Maung Win, officials, Yangon Division USDA Secretary U Aye Myint, Joint Secretary U Tha Win and executives viewed the activities that covered the entire municipal area of Yangon City.

The mayor and the deputy minister and officials visited members of USDA and social organizations giving educational talks on HIV/AIDS, distributing pamphlets, hanging educational wall posters, posting educational stickers on to slow-moving vehicles, distributing pamphlets to the commuters and people at Pansodan Jetty in Kyauktada Township and Yangon Central Railway Station in Mingala Taungnyunt Township.

The Vice-Mayor and officials of the Ministry of Health inspected similar activities organized by the USDA and the ministry and carried out by secretaries of USDAs, executives and members and social organizations at the busy places in Insein, Hlinethaya, North Okkalapa and Thingangyun townships.

In addition, similar activities were carried out at markets, factories, workshops, jetties, railway stations, bus stops, bus terminals, and cinema halls the same morning. — **MNA**



Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin and Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo view distribution of pamphlets to travellers in Yangon Central Railway Station. — YCDC

Shooting of teleplay to honour 2005 USDA AGM in progress

YANGON, 9 Sept — A film crew left here by air yesterday morning for Kengtung to shoot the scenes in Shan State for a teleplay entitled “Kyez-in-wunkhapan-yoema” honouring the 2005 Annual General Meeting of the Union Solidarity and Development Association.

The script and story of the teleplay was written by Nyein Min, and it will be directed by film director Zinyaw Maung Maung. Actors Lu Min, Nai Nai, Khant Sithu, actresses Eindra Kyaw Zin, Thet Mon Myint, Zin Zin Zaw Myint, Daw Myint Myint Khaing, Daw Nwe Nwe Mu and child actor Heavy Phyo will star in the teleplay.

Major scenes of Yangon University and its environs have been covered. — **MNA**

7th prize-distribution for 2005-2006 of Ministry of Home Affairs held

YANGON, 9 Sept — The 7th prize-distribution ceremony in conjunction with the ceremony to present stipend to the students for 2005-2006 academic year and prizes to the outstanding athletes of the social committee under the Ministry of Home Affairs, took place at the gymnasium on Kyaikwaing Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township this afternoon, attended by Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo.



Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo presents gift to a student who passed matriculation exam with six distinctions. — MNA

Also present on the occasion were Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo, wife of the Home Affairs Minister, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Phone Swe and wife Daw San San Wai, and officials of police forces and departments under the ministry and wives.

First, Minister Maj-Gen Maung Oo made a speech and awarded prizes to the four-distinction winners of matriculation exam in 2005. Afterwards, the minister accepted the cash donated by wellwishers and presented certificates of

honour.

Next, Dr Daw Nyunt Nyunt Oo, wife of the minister, the deputy minister and his wife Daw San San Wai, and officials presented prizes to other distinction winners.

Later, the minister and wife presented gifts to the athletes who secured gold, silver and bronze medals in the international sports competitions, and officials to the athletes who won prizes in the state/division sports competitions. Altogether K 2.2 million for outstanding athletes and over K 9.5 million for outstanding students including stipend were presented at the ceremony.

On behalf of prize winners, archer police-L/cpl Ye Min Swe expressed thanks and the ceremony ended. — **MNA**

Decide after assessment

- * **Friend...**
You also think, don't waver
Right from wrong, objectively
Make assessment, vividly of the time
With clear view...
You do the assessment, you decide.
- * **Friend...**
You must also know, lies
Full of vexation, like blind elephant
roaming forest
Destroying race, willing to destroy
nation
Blind man's not scared of ghost, fawning
for the West
make assessment, get clear picture of the
time
Get vivid view...
You do the assessment, you decide.
- * **Friend...**
Before your very eyes, today
Doing all the work, who are they?
make assessment, get clear picture of the
time
Get it vivid
You do the assessment, you decide.
- * **Friend...**
Together with you, the entire people
What is required, is peace
And thinking together, toward
The new nation, hand in hand
To go for peace, serious and serene
Our Myanmar nation's trend of together
ness
Raise the curtain, see the time
With clear view
You do the assessment, you decide.
Hinshada Myint Ngwe (Trs)

Respects paid to teachers of DA Course

YANGON, 9 Sept — The conclusion ceremony of Diploma in Accountancy Course (Part-II) was held in conjunction with the ceremony to pay respects to the teachers at the training school of Auditor-General's Office in Ahlon Township this afternoon.

Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Accountancy Council Deputy Auditor-General Daw Thinn Thinn gave a speech. Next, the trainees paid respects to the teachers. — **MNA**

TV sets, medicines donated to Tatmadawmen, MPF members for development of rural areas

YANGON, 9 Sept — Gano Excel Co (Malaysia) donated TV sets and medicines to rural people, Tatmadawmen and family members of Myanmar Police Force at the Ministry of Information on Theinbyu Street, here, this afternoon.

Managing Director Daw Nwe Nwe Soe of Gano Excel Myanmar and Medical Consultant Dr San Tint briefed those present on the purpose of the donations.

Next, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan explained cent per cent development tasks for all parts of the nation being carried out by the Government, undertaking of ru-



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan expresses thanks at the ceremony to donate TV sets and medicines for rural people, Tamadawmen and members of Myanmar Police Force. — MNA

ral development tasks, participation of international organizations, NGOs, and wellwishers and local people in development and health

care services. The minister thanked the wellwishers for their donations.

Wellwishers Mr Lew Soon Kiak and Daw

Nwe Nwe Soe presented 12 14-inch colour TV sets and related parts worth K 2.5 million to be used in rural development tasks being carried out by the Ministry of Information and medicines worth K 1.5 to be used in providing health care services to the rural people to the minister.

Afterwards, Commandant of No 2 Military Hospital (500-bed) Col Myint Maung, Police Adjutant-General Police Brig-Gen Soe Win Myint, Lt-Col Win Htay Oo of the Ministry of Defence accepted medicines worth K 1.5 million each for patients and families at military hos-

pitals and MPF members and families, and three 14-inch colour TV sets and related parts worth K 1.5 for Tatmadawmen who are discharging the duties in border areas.

Also present were departmental heads of the Ministry of Information.

MNA



Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan accepts TV sets and medicines donated by officials of Gano Excel Enterprise SDN BHD. — MNA



Police Brig-Gen Soe Win Myint accepts medicines worth K 1.5 million donated by Gano Excel Enterprise SDN BHD. — MNA

Meeting to control influenza held

YANGON, 9 Sept — Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo attended the opening ceremony of the meeting to control influenza, organized by Traditional Medicine Department, at Yangon Traditional Medicine General

Hospital, on Ngadatgyi Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, this morning.

The deputy minister delivered an address.

Director-General Dr Thein Swe of Traditional Medicine Department, Director Dr Sein Win

of Research and Development Division, Deputy Director-General Dr Myat Myat Ohn Khin and those present took part in the discussions.

Next, the deputy minister gave concluding remarks. — MNA

Priority to be given to competitions of triathlon athletes

YANGON, 9 Sept — The trials of triathlon event for the XXIII SEA Games will be held on 11 September morning.

Competition of the triathlon event will start in front of Fuji Restaurant near Karaweik Hall at Kandawgyi Lake, here, at 7 am.

After taking part in the 1500-m swimming event, the athletes are to continue their competition in the 40-km cy-

cling event that will start from Fuji Restaurant to No 981 Machinery Workshop through the road encircling Kandawgyi Lake, Bahan Roundabout, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and 8th mile Junction and Pyay Road. They must return from the workshop and finish their competitions near Nawade Cinema Hall.

Afterwards, the athletes continue to take part

in the 10-km race that will start from Nawade Cinema Hall to Karaweik Palace through Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Myepadetha Island and the road encircling Kandawgyi Lake.

The competition organizing committee requested vehicles, trishaws and the people to give priority to competitions of the athletes.

MNA

National Workshop for Copyright Awareness concludes

YANGON, 9 Sept — National Workshop for the Copyright Awareness and the Production and Utilization of the Myanmar Version of “Asian Copyright Handbook” concluded at Traders Hotel this morning.

At the workshop, group delegates answered the queries on the proposals of CEC members of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, officials of ACCU, departmental officials, literati, resource persons and advisers.

Next, those participants took part in the discussions collectively and approved the resolutions.

Afterwards, U Myo Thant (Maung Su Shin) of MWJA and Director Ms Ohnuki Misako of ACCU made remarks on the reso-

lutions of discussions. Later, a delegate expressed thanks and the workshop concluded.

In the evening, the dinner was hosted to those who attended the workshop by MWJA at Sakura Tower on Sule Pagoda Road. — MNA

Retransmission station airs MRTV programmes in Mongnaung

YANGON, 9 Sept — The functions of retransmission station in Mongnaung, Shan State (South) has been completed on 4 September 2005.

The programmes of MRTV are being aired as from 5 September 2005. — MNA



Director-General U Khin Maung Htay and Dr Reinhard Hartstein sign the agreement.—MNA

MRTV to air German programmes

YANGON, 9 Sept — A German company has agreed to air its satellite programmes through the Myanma Radio and TV for Myanmar audience at a meeting held today at MRTV.

Deputy Director-

General Dr Reinhard Hartstein of the German company, Deutsche Welle (DW), and MRTV Director-General U Khin Maung Htay signed the contract in the presence of Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen

Aung Thein and Charge d' Affairs of German Embassy Mr Dirk Augustin.

DW and MRTV officials also discussed exchange of TV programmes between the two nations. —MNA

Asia maintains robust economy growth amid challenges

MANILA, 9 Sept— The Asian developing countries are expected to keep the momentum of economic growth in the near future, despite high oil prices and other challenges posing some threat to their healthy expansion, an Asian Development Bank (ADB) report released on Thursday says.

The report, namely Asian Development Outlook 2005 Update, forecasts that the developing Asia's growth will be 6.6 per cent in both 2005 and 2006, but the impact of higher oil prices constitutes a major source of uncertainty.

The updated forecast of 6.6-per-cent growth for 2005 represents a small upward revision and the projection for 2006 is unchanged from that of the Asian Development Outlook 2005 released in April.

However, the report says that the overall outlook for developing Asia is "more uncertain than earlier in the year, with some risks now being more accentuated".

Projections have been revised up slightly to 6.9 per cent for East Asia for 2005, driven by the higher than anticipated full-year growth of China. For the rest of East Asia, though, growth is revised down to 3.8 per cent due to slower export growth. The report says that growth in South Asia is on track for 2005, with India as the regional en-

gine. Impact of large infrastructure investments is likely to outweigh the negative effect of high oil prices in this region, keeping the growth above 6.6 per cent.

As to Southeast Asia, the report sees that a variety of factors have dimmed its outlook this year, including poor harvests and high oil prices. However, these negative sides are partly offset by continuing robust growth in Vietnam and an improving investment climate in Indonesia. Overall, 2005 growth in Southeast Asia has been revised down to 5 per cent.

Central Asia's net oil exporters have benefitted from the higher oil prices and new production capacity, to the degree that subregional growth in 2005 is expected by the ADB report to top 9 per cent.

The report noted that oil prices, which have risen by almost 75 per cent since the beginning of 2005, call for policy changes to avoid looming economic meltdown. Other risks

include the possibility that growth might slow in the US and threats of virulent diseases and terrorist attacks.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese President arrives in Ottawa for state visit

OTTAWA, 9 Sept — Chinese President Hu Jintao arrived in the Canadian capital of Ottawa on Thursday for a state visit aimed at promoting all-round partnership of cooperation between China and Canada.

During his visit to Canada, the first by a Chinese head of state in eight years, Hu is expected to meet the Canadian leaders to exchange views on ways of furthering bilateral cooperation.

China and Canada have seen rapid progress in the development of bilateral ties since the two countries established diplomatic relation 35 years ago, especially after the all-round partnership of cooperation was formed in 1997.

The two countries have maintained frequent high-level contacts and achieved significant results in their cooperation in the fields of these economy, science and technology, energy resources, agriculture, the environment and health.

In 2004, trade between China and Candana reached 15.5 billion US dollars, a 55-per-cent increase over the previous year. In the first half of 2005, the bilateral trade volume was recorded at nine billion US dollars.

The two countries have also kept close consultation and cooperation in international affairs.

On Hu's visit to Canada, Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said last month that the visit would "deepen bilateral cooperation in various fields and upgrade the all-round partnership of cooperation to a new level".

The Chinese President will also pay a state visit to Mexico and attend the UN summit scheduled for 14-16 September in New York.

MNA/Xinhua

Wu says China to stick to road of peaceful development

UNITED NATIONS, 9 Sept — China will unwaveringly stick to the road of peaceful development, top Chinese legislator Wu Bangguo said here Wednesday.

"China has been and will always be a positive factor and staunch force in safeguarding world peace and promoting common development," Wu said in a speech delivered at the Second World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments at the headquarters of the United Nations.

Wu, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, is among Parliament speakers from more than 150 countries and regional parliamentary organizations attending the three-day conference, which opened here Wednesday.

"The Chinese is a

peace-loving nation and China is a responsible member of the international community," Wu said. "We focus on economic development, persist in reform and opening up, continue to improve people's living standards, and strive to build a harmonious socialist society," Wu said. — MNA/Xinhua

"Katrina" costs NASA at least \$1.1b

CAPE CANAVERAL (Florida), 9 Sept— Hurricane Katrina will cost NASA at least 1.1 billion US dollars, the space agency said on Thursday in its first assessment of the toll at its facilities along the US Gulf of Mexico.

The storm was likely to set back NASA's plans for another shuttle launch next year. The hurricane hit the Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, which assembles shuttle fuel tanks, and the Stennis Space Centre in Bay St Louis, Mississippi, which tests shuttle rocket motors.

"You can't just watch it on TV and get a feel for the devastation that I have seen down here on the Gulf Coast," Bill Parsons, who is overseeing NASA's hurricane recovery efforts, said during a teleconference with reporters from his base at Stennis. "It's just unbelievable."

Bill Gerstenmaier, NASA's newly named associate administrator for space operations, put the

preliminary damage estimate at 1.1 billion US dollars but it was unclear whether that figure included the cost of lost production as well as damage to facilities and equipment.

"Our first priority is to take care of our peo-

ple," said Bill Parsons, who is overseeing NASA's hurricane recovery efforts at the two facilities.

The agency is still assessing the storm's impact to its work force.

While most of the 300 employees at Stennis

have been located, Lockheed Martin, which operates the Michoud facility under contract with NASA, has yet to hear from half of its 2,000 workers. No deaths have been reported, but many workers lost their homes.

MNA/Reuters



A man finds his boat on land, where it was carried by Hurricane Katrina, in Clermont Harbor, Mississippi on 8 September, 2005. —INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENTS

**INVITATION TO TENDER
MYANMA RAILWAYS**

Sealed Tender is invited by Myanma Railways, Ministry of Rail Transportation, the Government of the Union of Myanmar, from reputed manufacturers or their bonifide agents from all eligible countries for the supply and delivery of the followings:-

Sr.No.	Tender No. & Description of Goods	Issue Date	Closing Date & Time
1.	15(T)3/MR/(E)2005-2006 Purchase of Brand New BS 75 R Steel Rail - (12000) M. Tons	12-9-2005 (Monday)	27.10.2005 12:00 noon (Thursday)

Tender Documents are available at the Office of the Managing Director, Myanma Railways, No. 357/361, Merchant Street, Botataung Township, Yangon during office hours on payment of non refundable fee US\$ 200 per set.

Bids are to reach the office of the Managing Director, Myanma Railways, No. 357/361, Merchant Street, Botataung Township, Yangon, Myanmar on or before the Closing Date and Time. The Bids will be opened publicly at 14:00 hour on the Closing Date at Myanma Railways Head Office.

All Bids not accompanied by earnest money (Bid Bond) will not be considered. No Telegraphic/Telex/Fax/e-mail proposal will be considered or accepted.

Myanma Railways reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders without furnishing reasons. Tender will be accepted only from Bidders who has purchased Tender Documents officially. (those tender document purchased through Embassies must declare for whom they are purchased.)

The above Goods and Services are to be purchased by our government's allotted Foreign Exchange to Myanma Railways.

For further details please call: 298589, 298636, 298587, 291982, 201555 Ext-510, 522, 520, 540

Deputy General Manager
Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Botataung Yangon

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V. SEA BRIGHT VOY: NO (721)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V. SEA BRIGHT VOY NO (721) are here by notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11-9-2005 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER**
Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Annan takes blame for some of oil-for food programme fraud

UNITED NATIONS, 8 Sept—UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan accepted responsibility on Wednesday for mismanagement of the oil-for-food programme in Iraq in an address to the Security Council on the investigation of the programme.

"The report is critical of me personally, and I accept its criticism," he said after Paul Volcker, the head of a yearlong probe, told the 15-nation Council its members too shared the blame for failing to supervise the 64 billion US dollars programme.

The findings are "deeply embarrassing to us all", Annan said. The inquiry committee has ripped away the curtain and shone a harsh light into the most unsightly corners of the organizations.

The report by the Independent Inquiry Com-

mittee, headed by Volcker, a former US Federal Reserve chairman, does not accuse Annan personally of wrongdoing but found that the "cumulative management performance" of the Secretary-General fell short of the standard that the United Nations organization should strive to maintain.

Volcker told the Council that the programme, which allowed Saddam Hussein to sell oil to buy food and choose his own customers, "was a compact with the devil and the devil had means for manipulating the programme to his ends". He recommended the creation of a new chief operating officer with mandate for administration as well as a strong and independent oversight board, reforms still in dispute among UN members.

MNA/Reuters

Caribbean countries seek reduction in oil prices from Venezuela

HAVANA, 8 Sept—Caribbean countries seek to reduce the cost of their petroleum imports from Venezuela, which promised them favourable payment conditions as part of PetroCaribe, an energy co-operation agreement in the region.

Leaders, or their representatives, from 13 Caribbean countries are holding a meeting with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez in Montego Bay, Jamaica, reports reaching here said.

The PetroCaribe summit takes place as oil prices skyrocket to unprecedented levels in the international market, representing an enormous burden and stunting the development of regional economies.

During the meeting, the Venezuelan Government will sign agreements with the 13 countries registered in PetroCaribe, a Caracas initiative meant to guarantee energy security in the region.

Chavez said the Caribbean countries will be asked to immediately pay 60 per cent of the cost, with the remaining 40 per cent either being paid within two years or with products such as sugar or bananas.

Caribbean diplomatic authorities said the Venezuelan Government is likely to further discount

သတင်းစာရောင်းဈေး ဖြစ်ဆင်သတ်မှတ်ခြင်း

၁။ အများပြည်သူများ သတင်းအချက်အလက်နှင့် အသိပညာဗဟုသုတ တိုးပွားစေရေးကို ရှေးရှု၍ သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်းမှ နေ့စဉ်ထုတ်ဝေလျက်ရှိသော မြန်မာ/အင်္ဂလိပ်သတင်းစာများကို အမြတ်အစွန်းအား ပဓာနမထားဘဲ မူရင်းကုန်ကျစရိတ်ထက် အရှုံးခံကာ သတင်းသောသောရောင်းဈေး တစ်စောင်လျှင် ၁၀ ကျပ် နှုန်းဖြင့် ရောင်းချပေးလျက်ရှိပါသည်။

၂။ ယခုအခါ ကမ္ဘာနှင့်အဝန်းတွင် သတင်းစာထုတ်ဝေမှု ပိုမိုလုပ်ငန်းသုံးပစ္စည်းဈေးနှုန်းများ ပိုမိုမြင့်တက်လာသဖြင့် မြန်မာ/အင်္ဂလိပ် သတင်းစာတစ်စောင်စီ၏ ထုတ်လုပ်မှုကုန်ကျစရိတ်သည် ၆၅ ကျပ်၊ ပြား ၄၀ ရှိနေပါသည်။

၃။ သို့ပါ၍ ဈေးကွက်စီးပွားရေးစနစ်နှင့်အညီ နိုင်ငံတော်မှ စိုက်ထုတ်အကုန်အကျခံထားရသော ကုန်ကျစရိတ်များ လျော့နည်းသက်သာစေရန်နှင့် ပြည်သူများအတွက်လည်း တတ်နိုင်သမျှ သင့်တင့်သည့်သက်သာမှုရှိစေရန် ရည်ရွယ်၍ ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ (၁)ရက်နေ့မှစပြီး မြန်မာ/အင်္ဂလိပ် သတင်းစာတစ်စောင်စီ၏ ရောင်းဈေးကို မူရင်းကုန်ကျစရိတ်ထက် လျော့နည်းသော ဈေးဖြစ်သည့် ကျပ် ၅၀ နှုန်းဖြင့် ပြောင်းလဲပြင်ဆင်သတ်မှတ် ရောင်းချ သွားမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

၄။ သတင်းစာဖြန့်ချိသူကိုယ်စားလှယ်များ အနေဖြင့် မိမိတို့ ဆက်လက်ဝယ်ယူလိုသော သတင်းစာအမျိုးအစားနှင့် စောင်ရေကို သက်ဆိုင်ရာ သတင်းစာတိုက်များနှင့် ဆက်သွယ်ညှိနှိုင်းမှာကြားသွားရန် ဖြစ်ကြောင်း ကြိုတင်အသိပေးအပ်ပါသည်။

သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း

Pakistan denies assurance to India on spy

ISLAMABAD, 8 Sept—Pakistan denied an Indian media report that it had assured New Delhi that it would not execute an Indian convicted 14 years ago of spying and of carrying out a series of bomb attacks.

"We have not given any such assurance," Foreign Ministry spokesman Muhammad Naem Khan said, contradicting a report in the Indian daily, *The Hindu*.

Sarabjit Singh was convicted of spying and involvement in bombings in Pakistan that killed 14 people, and the Supreme Court last month upheld the death penalty handed to him in 1991.

Singh's lawyer plans to ask Pakistan's Supreme Court to review its decision and he also has the option of appealing to President Pervez Musharraf for clemency.

One of the chief prosecution witnesses from the trial 14 years ago has recanted and said Singh was innocent.

Tuesday's edition of *The Hindu* quoted unnamed Indian officials as saying India had been told the case had become an "emotive issue" and the sentence would not be implemented.

The controversy comes at a time when India and Pakistan are trying to speed a slow moving peace process.

The Indian Government has pressed for clemency for Singh ahead of talks between Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Pakistan's Musharraf in New York this month.

Sarabjit Singh's family says he is a poor farmer from a border village who accidentally wandered into Pakistan in 1990.

Supporters elsewhere in India have protested, signed petitions and gone on hunger strikes to save the condemned man.

Death sentences are often handed down but rarely carried out in Pakistan. — MNA/Reuters



Twin beams of light known as the "Tribute in Lights" are tested at the former site of the World Trade Centre in New York on 7 September, 2005. —INTERNET

မညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီပွဲများတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Mahathir says soaring oil price will not hit Malaysia seriously

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 Sept—The soaring oil price on the world market will not affect Malaysia seriously in the long-term, former Malaysian prime minister Mahathir Mohamad said here on Wednesday.

Malaysia would not be hit so seriously as other countries in the long term since the country has surplus of crude oil, which is being sold at the higher price, he said after delivering a speech at the Global Leadership Forum opened at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

Malaysia would adjust itself against the surging oil price, which was traded at around 66 US dollars on Wednesday, he added.

The former prime minister said earlier that

although Malaysia was a small petroleum producer, it earned more from each barrel than most other oil producing countries because the country participated in the upstream and downstream activities, including acquiring skills.

Mahathir cited the food price in Malaysia as an example to back up his words.

Currently, the current food prices in Malaysia are basically stable. Many shops, stores or restaurants are selling or serv-

ing food at the same price as usual, except some complaints about oil price hikes at gas stations around the country.

The Malaysian Government on Wednesday announced some immediate measures to offset the petroleum price hike, including reducing road taxes on vehicles by 25 per cent to 80 per cent.

The Malaysian Government also said it would increase welfare to the elderly and the needy people to ease their burden.

MNA/Xinhua

China helps Thailand train landmine clearance personnel

RATCHABURI (Thailand), 8 Sept—A team of Chinese specialists on Wednesday handed landmine clearance equipment to Thai Army, unveiling a three-month training course for Thai personnel.

"The aid to Thailand is one of China's contribution to international humanitarian de-mining efforts," said Senior Colonel An Zuoshan, Defence Attache of Chinese Embassy in Thailand.

An said China is ready to help neighbouring countries eliminate landmine-related human concerns and improve stability along border areas so as to promote local economic development. Besides the equipment including detection and clearance devices, the Chinese Government also sent ten de-mining specialists to help train Thailand's personnel.

The specialists all have rich experience in clearing landmines and training personnel, said Qian Gong,

head of the Chinese Defence Delegation overseeing the training project.

Most specialists in the team worked four months in Eritrea in Africa in 2002, training local personnel and joining their mine clearance mission.

"Their skills and the property of the donated equipment are the best for mine clearance," Qian told Xinhua.

In the following three months, the Chinese specialists will give six-week classroom training to Thai personnel and spend the other six weeks joining Thailand's mine clearance on the Thai-Cambodian border.

China has been actively taking part in international de-mining assistance pro-

grammes in recent years. In 2002 and 2003, China sent two groups of de-mining experts to Eritrea for on-site training and donated mine-clearance equipment to the country.

In 2001, China donated detection and clearance equipment worth of 1.26 million US dollars to affected countries including Angola, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Mozambique. It is the first time that China sent expertise to Asian countries, said An. The effort is hailed as a breakthrough in the Thai-Chinese military cooperation and believed to enrich the two countries' friendly relations, said Major-General Udomsak Demongkon, president of the Thailand Mine Action Centre.—MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia-based Toyota exports vans to Mid-East

JAKARTA, 8 Sept—Japanese auto giant Toyota Motor Corp. has begun to sell the Kijang Innova vans from its plant in Indonesia, where Innova enjoyed market boom, a local newspaper reported on Wednesday.

After taking the domestic automotive market by storm, Kijang Innova has now expanded its market to the Middle East, the car manufacturer PT Toyota Motor Manufacturer Indonesia (TMMIN) revealed on Tuesday.

With the first shipment transported in July, PT Toyota Motor Manufacturer Indonesia (TMMIN) has set an export target for the Middle East of 4,500 completely built up (CBU) units of the multipurpose vehicles annually, reported *The Jakarta Post*.

"This bodes well for

achieving our total export target of some 10,000 units of Innova per year," the company's planning chief Irwan Priyantoko was quoted as saying.

Aside from the Middle East, Innova has also been exported to Thailand and Brunei Darussalam since late last year.

"So far, sales in the two countries have reached about 5,000 units," he said.

On the domestic front, sales reached about 50,000 units in the first month of the year. Launched only in September last year, some 22,300 cars had been

sold by the end of last year.

Innova, manufactured with about 70 per cent local content, is the new generation of the Toyota Kijang minivan, which for years has been the top selling car in Indonesia.

Irwan said that at present, the company would boost its production capacity of 70,000 units per year starting next year.

The Kijang was the first four-wheeled vehicle in the country to reach the one million production mark. This was achieved in October in 2003.

MNA/Xinhua



US Space tourist Gregory Olsen (L), Russian cosmonaut Valery Tokarev (C) and US astronaut William McArthur look out of a Soyuz TMA spacecraft simulator in Star City outside Moscow, on 7 September, 2005.—Internet

Chinese Govt moves to help home-made books go overseas

BEIJING, 8 Sept—The government is now carrying out a programme to promote the overseas sale of domestic books by offering subsidies to local publishers who translate Chinese-language books into foreign language ones.

The State Council Press Office and the State Administration for Press and Publication recently issued a joint notice to recommend over 1,200 books, published by over 20 local publishers, to their foreign counterparts.

The move is aimed to reduce China's deficit in this field. In 2004, China bought the copyrights of 10,040 foreign books,

while merely 1,314 Chinese books sold out their copy rights to foreign publishers.

Most of the Chinese book's copy rights were bought by publishers from Southeast Asian countries and China's Hong Kong and Macao, and Taiwan Chinese books are rarely sold in European and American countries.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese enjoy nat'l treatment in Britain

BEIJING, 8 Sept—Chinese firms and business people enjoy the national treatment like the British, said Charles Powell, president of the Britain-China Business Council here on Tuesday.

"Any Chinese company can buy any British company without any restriction, and any Chinese business men or women can set up their businesses in Britain without restriction just the same as British people," he said at a meeting with the Press.

Also attending the meeting were Digby Jones, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, and five CEOs of British companies from information technology, construction, metals recycle and beer

industries. Powell spoke highly of the fast growing Britain-China trade in recent years, saying Britain has become China's largest trade partner in the European Union (EU).

According to Chinese Customs figures, Sino-British trade hit 12.1 billion US dollars in the first eight months this year.

Chinese Minister of Commerce Bo Xilai has predicted that the two countries could reach the goal of a 20-billion-US dollar trade between the two countries this year.

Powell, who also serves as chairman of the EU-China Business Association, suggested the right way to handle the trade imbalance and disputes between the EU and China should be increasing British exports to China rather than "putting obstacles in the way of China selling more to Britain".

Jones said that a richer and more prosperous China would provide greater opportunities for enlarging trade and investment between the EU and China.—MNA/Xinhua

Two kilos of cocaine found in envelopes in Sydney

CANBERRA, 8 Sept—Two persons have been arrested for allegedly trying to smuggling in 2.5 kilos of cocaine to Australia, Australian Federal Police said in a statement on Wednesday. The cocaine, with a street value of about 336,000 US dollars was found in 39 different envelopes posted from America.

A 41-year-old Nigerian national and a 19-year-old US citizen were arrested on Wednesday at Petersham, Sydney, as they were trying to collect the envelopes.—MNA/Xinhua

SPORTS



Switzerland's Roger Federer lunges to make a return to Argentina's David Nalbandian in their quarterfinal tennis match at the US Open tennis tournament in Flushing Meadows, New York, on 8 September, 2005.—INTERNET

Chelsea charged with misconduct over drug tests

LONDON, 9 Sept—Premier League champions Chelsea were charged by the Football Association on Thursday with misconduct for allegedly breaching rules governing private drug testing by the club on some players last year.

Chelsea issued a statement saying the tests "directly relate to the Adrian Mutu case" and that the club would vigorously defend itself having "done nothing morally wrong".

Romania striker Mutu was sacked by Chelsea in October last year after failing an FA approved drugs test for cocaine, although the July 12 test referred to by the FA was negative.

The FA said in a statement: "It is alleged that Chelsea FC has breached Regulation 1(e) of The FA's Doping Control

Regulations, which states that interference with a drugs test or the Doping Control Programme will be regarded as amounting to a breach of the Doping Control Regulations".

Chelsea responded with a statement saying it was "absolutely committed to the fight against drugs in football. We believe we have demonstrated this by our actions and would never attempt to contravene any rules in order to cover-up drugs in sport.

"We have made it clear

publicly that we will adopt a zero tolerance policy to anybody who fails a drug test and rejects the chance of help and rehabilitation when offered by the club.

The FA rules on doping offences state: "The independent private testing/screening of players by clubs, club officials or any other person subject to FA rules is prohibited.

"Such testing/screening will be regarded as conduct that would interfere with The FA's doping control programme...".

MNA/Reuters

LA officials launch bid to host 2016 Summer Olympics

LOS ANGELES, 8 Sept — Community leaders in Los Angeles on Wednesday launched a bid to host the 2016 Olympics, possibly making the second biggest US city home to its third Summer Games.

The announcement was made by the Southern California Committee for the Olympic Games, or SCCOG, at a news conference attended by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, SCCOG Chairman Barry Sanders and other local officials.

"We want the members of the US Olympic Committee board to know that LA is ready and eager to participate in the selection process and wants to emerge as their choice and, thereafter, as the final choice of the International Olympic Committee," Sanders said.

"We believe that we are the world's best place for the 2016 Olympics and we look forward to demonstrating that to everyone," he said.

Los Angeles is the only American city to host the Olympics more than

once. The city staged the Summer Olympics in 1932 and 1984. The last American city to host the Summer Olympics was Atlanta, in 1996.

The USOC is expected to name its bid city by 2007, and the International Olympic Committee will make its selection in 2009.

The city already has many of the facilities needed for the Olympics — airports, sports venues, transportation, media centres — which will help to cut down on construction, Sanders said.

"The history that's going to be made at the 2016 games will be good for the world but the games will also be good for us," Villaraigosa said. "Our bid for the games will engage the creativity, the optimism of our people, people who come from every corner of the earth

who are connected to every sports team but call Los Angeles home."

Councilmen Bernard Parks and Tom LaBonge, Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard and Olympic gold medallists Janet Evans and Rafer Johnson were all on hand to help announce the city's bid.

The USOC board, now chaired by Peter Ueberroth, is due to meet Saturday in Denver to begin sketching out guidelines for the 2016 race.

Within the next month the board is expected to announce those guidelines and begin the official bidding process, Sanders said.

Los Angeles is the first US city to formally enter the race. Chicago, San Francisco, Houston, New York and Washington are also possible contenders, Sanders said.

MNA/Xinhua

Owen says England players must share blame for defeat

GATESHEAD, (England), 9 Sept — Michael Owen says the England players have to take their share of responsibility for the World Cup qualifier defeat by Northern Ireland.

Coach Sven-Goran Eriksson was lambasted in the national media after Wednesday's 1-0 loss in Belfast, England's first in the city since 1927.

"The manager, the players and the staff are all in it together," striker Owen

told reporters on Thursday.

"If the manager gets stick it's due in no small part to the players. We were out there playing and we didn't perform well enough.

"We played well for the first half an hour but then

seemed to get worse and worse.

"But we take collective responsibility for the performance and now we have to show collective togetherness, stick tight and put it right in the next two games."—MNA/Reuters

Swiss stay top equal in group with 3-1 win over Cyprus

NICOSIA, 8 Sept—Switzerland beat Cyprus 3-1 on Wednesday to stay firmly on course for a place in the 2006 World Cup finals.

The Swiss stayed top equal with France, 1-0 winners against Ireland in Dublin, in the tight European zone Group Four standings, both with 16 points from eight games.

Switzerland went ahead in the 15th minute when goalkeeper Michalis Morfis parried a shot by Alexander Frei but the striker pounced to score from the rebound.

Cyprus scored a surprise equalizer 20 minutes later when Swiss goalkeeper Pascal

Zuberbuehler misjudged a long, high ball at the edge of the box and Georgios Aloneftis had an easy job in front of an empty net.

Defender Philippe Senderos put the Swiss ahead again with a stroke of luck in the 69th minute when his cross from the right was deflected into the net by Konstantinos Charalambides.

Daniel Gygay sealed the win six minutes from time with a header after a cross from the left.

MNA/Reuters

Who has qualified for the World Cup?

WORLD CUP PLACES BOOKED



- Germany
- Argentina
- Japan
- Iran
- South Korea
- Saudi Arabia
- Ukraine
- USA
- Brazil
- Mexico

The 2006 World Cup will be held in Germany, with 32 teams involved.

At present, ten of those 32 slots have been

filled, with Mexico the latest to qualify.

Hosts Germany and Ukraine are through and South America's big two, Argentina and Brazil, have both sealed their places.

In addition USA, Japan, Iran, South Korea and Saudi Arabia have also qualified.

But who else will be on the plane to Germany in 2006? And which regions of the world will they come from?

EUROPE

- * Germany
- * Ukraine

12 others made up of seven group winners, two best runners-up and three winners of play-offs in-

volving other six runners-up. England need two more victories to qualify.

SOUTH AMERICA

- * Argentina
- * Brazil

Two others qualify automatically and one more goes into a play-off with Australia, who beat the Solomon Islands in the Oceania qualifying final.

ASIA

- * Japan
- * Iran
- * South Korea
- * Saudi Arabia

One other team to enter a play-off against Central American country.

CONCACAF

(North and Central

America and Caribbean)

- * USA
- * Mexico

Plus next team from Guatemala, Costa Rica, Trinidad and Tobago and Panama, with fourth entering a play-off against team from Asia.

AFRICA

* No qualifiers yet
Winners of each of the five qualifying groups go through.

OCEANIA

Australia beat the Solomon Islands 9-1 on aggregate in their two-legged play-off. They go through to play the fifth-placed South American country in a play-off in November.

Internet

Don't Smoke

Major quake rocks Papua New Guinea

SYDNEY, 9 Sept — A major earthquake measuring 7.3 in magnitude shook parts of Papua New Guinea in the South Pacific on Friday, but there were no immediate reports of damage and a tsunami was unlikely, officials said.

However, effects to contact residents in remote areas near the quake were being hindered by poor communication lines, a spokesman for Papua New Guinea's National Disaster and Emergency Services said.

The epicentre of the quake, which struck at 0735 GMT was off the east coast of New Britain province, about 130 km (80 miles) east southeast of Rabaul, the Hong Kong Observatory said.

MNA/Reuters



U Thit Hsan - Daw Than Shwe and family of No 701 (B), Yuzana Tower, Bahan Township, recently donate K 100,000 to U Chit Maung, member of Administrative Board of Hninzigon Home for the Aged. — H

Infections kill 3 after "Katrina"; others at risk

WASHINGTON, 9 Sept — Three people have died from bacterial infections in Gulf states after Hurricane Katrina, and tests confirm that the water flooding New Orleans is a stew of sewage-borne bacteria, federal officials said on Wednesday.

A fourth person in the Gulf region is suspected to be infected with *Vibrio vulnificus*, a common marine bacteria, Centres for Disease Control and Prevention Director Dr Julie Gerberding told reporters, citing reports from state health officials in Mississippi and Texas.

"This does not represent an outbreak," Gerberding told a news conference. "It does not spread from person to person."

"People who are compromised in immunity can sometimes develop very severe infections from these bacteria. We see cases of this from time to time along the coast," she added.

Two of those who died were in Mississippi and one was an evacuee from Texas from Louisiana,

health officials said.

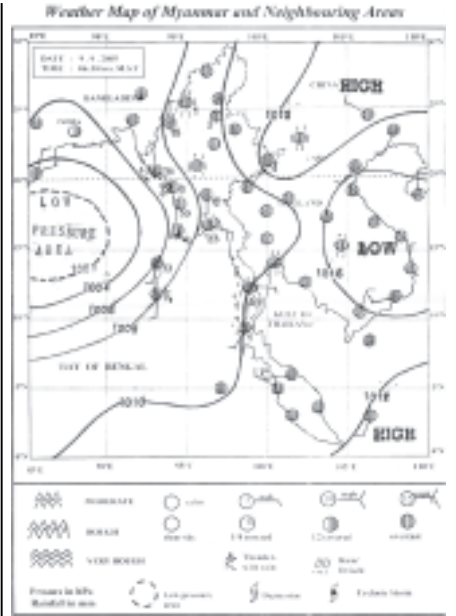
And tests of the waters flooding New Orleans show it is, as expected, loaded with raw sewage.

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Stephen Johnson said all the tests of waters in flooded residential areas of New Orleans exceeded by at least 10 times the safe levels of *E coli* and other so-called coliform bacteria, found in the human gut and used as an indicator of sewage contamination. They also have high levels of lead.

"Human contact with the floodwaters should be avoided as much as possible," Johnson told the news conference. "This may seem obvious... but no one should drink the floodwaters, especially children."

Gerberding said the message was clear. "For evacuees who haven't left the city yet, you must do so," he said.

MNA/Reuters



WEATHER

Friday, 9th September, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State and lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan and Chin States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in Magway Division and isolated heavyfall in Rakhine State. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Sittway (4.06) inches, Namsam (3.42) inches, Aunglan (2.28) inches, Nyaung U (1.85) inches, Minbu (1.57) inches, Co co Island (1.50) inches, Magway (0.59) inch and Pinyinmana (0.78) inch.

Maximum temperature on 8-9-2005 was 84°F. Minimum temperature on 9-9-2005 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 9-9-2005 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 8-9-2005 was 2.2 hrs approx. Rainfalls on 9-9-2005 were (1.06) inch at Mingaladon, (0.91) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.43) inch at the central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2005 were 75.59 inches at Mingaladon, 78.67 inches at Kaba-Aye and 82.60 inches at central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from East at (14:40) hours MST on 8-9-2005.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hrs MST today, yesterday's low pressure areas persists over West Central Bay. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the North Bay and monsoon is weak elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 10-9-2005: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Chin and Kayah States, Sagaing and Bago Divisions, scattered in Kachin and Shan States, Mandalay, Magway, Ayeyawady and Yangon Divisions and widespread in remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 80%.

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Thundery conditions in Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 10-9-2005: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 10-9-2005: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.

Weather outlook for second of September 2005: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Yangon and Mandalay Divisions.

Flood Bulltein

(Issued at 12:30 hr MST on 9-9-05)

According to the (09:30) hrs MST on today, the water level of Sittoung River at Toungou is (602) cm. It may remain above the danger level (600) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.



Saturday, 10th September

View on today:

- 7:00 am
 1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ အဘိဓမ္မာ မဟာဝဂ္ဂနိဂ္ဂ၊ အဘိဓမ္မာ မဟာသမ္ဘဒ္ဒမောင်တော်၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မာပညာပါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်
- 7:25 am
 2. To be healthy exercises
- 7:30 am
 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
 5. အစိုးရပြန်
- 8:10 am
 6. သံလွင်မြစ်နီ လက်နပ်သံစဉ်
- 8:20 am
 7. အစိုးရပြန်
- 8:30 am
 8. International news
- 8:45 am
 9. Islands of Dhamma
- 8:50 am
 10. ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝေခနိယ(အရှင်မဟာပဏ္ဍိတ) အရှင်မဟာသမ္ဘဒ္ဒမောင်တော်(ပရိတ်) အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ အဘိဓမ္မာ သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့၊ ဓမ္မာတော် ပါဠိတက္ကသိုလ်ကျောင်းတိုက်၊ ဓမ္မနိဂ္ဂ၊ ဓမ္မာပညာပါရိက၊ ထံမှ နဂပ်ဂူသီတေသီလံပေယျဆောင်ရွက်ကြပါ
- 11:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 11:15 pm
 2. Musical programme
- 11:30 pm
 3. News

- 11:40 pm
 4. Games for children
- 12:05 pm
 5. Roundup of the week's TV local news
- 12:35 pm
 6. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "အေဂျီစီနှင့်မိစ္ဆာစွမ်းမီ:" (အပိုင်း-၃၆)
- 1:15 pm
 7. ကြားပြန်သုတ ဗြည့်ဝဓရာစာပေသော
- 1:25 pm
 8. လောကနီတိ(၃) "အမေသား" မင်း၊ မေမိ ကွန်း၊ ပြေတီဦး၊ နိုးမြတ်နန္ဒာ၊ နန်းစန်းဝင်း၊ ဒါရိုက်တာ-ခင်ဇော်
- 2:00 pm
 9. Dance of national races
- 2:15 pm
 10. အသက်(၁၇)နှစ်အောက်အသက် လူငယ်ဘေးလုံပုံရိပ်အစီအစဉ်
- 2:25 pm
 11. Musical programme
- 2:40 pm
 12. "တန်ခိုး" ညီညီနန်းနန်း၊ လှိုင်မြတ်မြတ်၊ ဒါရိုက်တာ-သက်တင်
- 2:45 pm
 13. International news
- 4:00 pm
 1. Martial song
- 4:15 pm
 2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm
 3. English for Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm
 4. အမှတ်(၃) အခြေခံပညာဦးစီးဌာန၊ တတိယအကြိမ်မြောက် ဓမ္မစကြာတော်ရွတ်ဖတ်ပွဲ (တတိယဆ) အထက်(၂) ရပ်သာယာ(အမျိုးသမီးတော်ရွတ်အဖွဲ့)
- 5:00 pm
 5. အဆေးသင်တန်းပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ပထမနှစ် (သတ္တဝေခနိယ) (သတ္တဝေခနိယ)

- 5:15 pm
 6. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 5:30 pm
 7. ၂၀၀၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဧရာဝတီ အကြိမ်(၁၃)ကြိမ် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအကအရာ၊ အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များ ဧရာဝတီနှင့် ကြွရန် (ကလေးတော်) တေးနှင့် ဇော်တော်ဆင်း(အခြေခံပညာ ၅-၁၀) (အမျိုးသမီး)
- 5:40 pm
 8. အစိုးရပြန်
- 6:55 pm
 9. Musical programme
- 6:10 pm
 10. မြန်မာ့စာ၊ မြန်မာစကား
- 6:20 pm
 11. Musical programme
- 6:30 pm
 12. Evening news
- 7:00 pm
 13. Weather report
- 7:05 pm
 14. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "စိမ်းလှေအောက်ကန်သာယာ" (အပိုင်း-၅)
- 7:35 pm
 15. ဧရာဝတီပျော်ရွှင်ကျိုက်ဆော်ဝန် ဇော်တော်
- 7:45 pm
 16. ပေါက်တံတား(ရေပြာ)နှင့် ပေါက်တံတား (အနီးတော)
- 8:00 pm
 17. News
- 18. International news
- 19. Weather report
- 20. နိုင်ငံခြားစာတိုလမ်းတွဲ "ထောင့်ရေစိသု" (အပိုင်း-၆)
- 21. မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော် ဘုရားကြီး ဦးစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ အရပ်အယုံရက်မှာ ဓမ္မာတော် ဘာဝနာပွားများခြင်း တရားတော်
- 22. The next day's programme



Saturday, 10th September

Tune in today:

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music: -Tell it to your heart
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music: -Sunny holiday
- 8:50 am National news/Slogan
- 9:00 am Music: -One sweet day
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Music: -Jelly head -Unbreak my heart -Don't go away
- 1:30 pm News/Slogan
- 1:40 pm Music at your request -First love -You and I -Near you
- 9:00 pm ASEAN review -News
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Myanmar Culture
- 9:30 pm Souvenirs
- Golden years
- Peaceful easy feeling
- Shine on harvest moon
- 9:45 pm News/Slogan
- 10:00 pm Potfolio for easy listening

State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of the Republic of India

YANGON, 9 Sept— Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra, newly accredited Ambassador of the Republic of India to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Zeyathiri Beikman, Konmyinthata at 10.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion were State Peace and Development Council Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and U Maung Myint and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department.

MNA



Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe receives newly accredited Indian Ambassador Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra at Zeyathiri Beikman.

MNA

State Peace and Development Council Chairman Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Mr Bhaskar Kumar Mitra, newly accredited Ambassador of the Republic of India, at Zeyathiri Beikman.

MNA



Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects agricultural tasks in Shan State (South)

YANGON, 9 Sept—Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence and Chairman of Shan State PDC Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint inspected progress of Taunggyi on 7 September morning.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win and party inspected progress of cultivation of monsoon paddy along Taunggyi-Hopong Road and Hopong-Mongpong Road and upgrading and maintenance of Meiktila-Taunggyi-Loilem Road.

On arrival at Mongpong, Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspected Shwe Yin Aye strain paddy fields. The commander gave accounts of sufficient water supply and programmes for extended cultivation. Lt-Gen

Kyaw Win gave instructions.

He viewed progress of growing of monsoon paddy and corn plantations along Mongpong-Loilem Road and pine plantations along Loilem-Namhsan Road and progress of cultivation of monsoon paddy in Loilem-Namhsan Region.

He proceeded to Namhsan Station and presented cash assistance to Namhsan Station Maternal and Child Welfare Association through Chairperson of the association Daw Kyi Htay, wife of Brig-Gen Thura Myint Thein of the station.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win also inspected the 93-acre field of Shwe Yin Aye strain paddy of families of Namhsan Station near Namhsan-Mongnai Road and instructed the officers to extend paddy cultivation.

He looked into conservation of forests and plantations of monsoon paddy and seasonal crops along Mongnai-Maukmai Road and the 200-acre monsoon paddy model field at Nwapaukkwin, Singaing Village-tract- Maukmai Township.

(See page 8)

INSIDE

Pakokku District is formed with five townships — Pakokku, Yesagyo, Pauk, Myaing and Seikphyu — in which, 1.35 million people live in their 34 wards and 1,205 villages.