

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

Secretary-1 attends dinner hosted in honour of victorious Myanmar Women's Football Team

Government striving for improvement of Myanmar sport standards as a national duty with the aim of showing Myanmar's high dignity and sport standards through victories in international sport events



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein delivers an address at the dinner in honour of victorious Myanmar Women's Football Team in Third AFF Women's Championship. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Sept — A dinner was hosted in honour of the selected Myanmar women's soccer team that

won the Third AFF Women's Championship-2007 at the City Hall of Nay Pyi Taw this evening with an address

by Chairman of Myanmar National Olympic Council Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Coun-

cil Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

The dinner was also attended by Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of the Secretary-1, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin (See page 8)



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein accepts cash donation for victorious Myanmar Women's Football Team from a wellwisher. — MNA

Based on strength of the people the government is making strenuous efforts on its own way to enable Myanmar to raise the prestige of the nation and its people in economic, social, cultural and sport sectors.

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

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 24 September, 2007

Expedite construction of district to district roads

The government has laid down the five rural development tasks and is implementing them with greater momentum. With the construction of rural roads, rural folks can now go from one place to another easily.

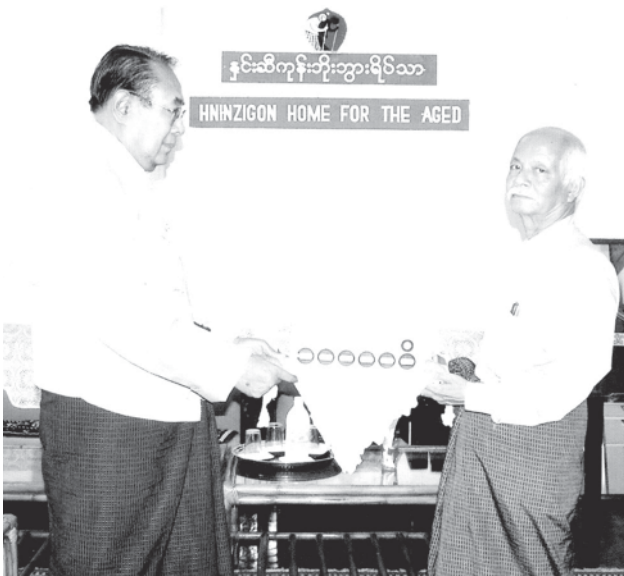
With the improvement of the rural roads economic, social and education sectors have developed markedly.

Now the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs is constructing district to district roads No 1 and No 2 for progress of rural areas. No 1 Road, about 400 miles long, starts from TadaU Township in Mandalay Division to No 3 Highway in Hmawby Township in Yangon Division. Construction of the road linking Mandalay, Magway, Bago (West) and Yangon Divisions began from 2002-2003 fiscal year.

No 1 Road is being upgraded from earth sections and gravel sections to tarred ones. Some sections of the road have been completed and now they are serviceable.

In 1988 there were 13,635 miles of roads in urban and rural areas nationwide. Under the State Peace and Development Council there are 19,041 miles of roads, up to 5,406 miles.

All the related ministries and departments concerned are required to build more roads linking villages, townships and districts for convenience of the rural people in accord with the five rural development tasks.



U Aung Kye Myint of Anawrahta Housing in Hledan, Kamayut donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged thorough Joint Treasurer U Maung Maung Gyi of the Home recently.— H

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

Minister for Education tours universities in Yangon

YANGON, 23 Sept — Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein, accompanied by deputy directors-general of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar), arrived at Yangon Institute of Education, here, this morning.

At the meeting hall, Pro-Rector Dr Daw LwinLwin Soe reported on management and academic matters and conducting of doctoral courses.

Heads of department also reported on academic and research matters. The minister gave instructions on efforts to be made for enhancement of academic matter in the respective subjects and application of computer and language labs.

Yesterday, the minister met with faculty members at the Convocation Hall of Yangon Uni-



Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein meeting with faculty members at Yangon Institute of Education.— MNA

versity. Pro-Rector Dr Tun Khin reported on opening of doctorate courses. Professors and heads of department also submitted reports on enhancement of trainees' efficiency. The minister instructed them to strive for placing emphasis on improvement of the doctoral courses and

conducting research.

At Yangon University of Distance Education, the minister and party met faculty members. Pro-Rector Dr Daw Marlar Aung reported on academic and management matters.

Heads of department and professors also reported on their respective sectors. The minister instructed the faculty members to carry out tasks in line with the disciplines and uplift the education standards. — MNA

No wish to stand as members of NLD

54 NLD members quit Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Townships

YANGON, 23 Sept — A total of 53 members of Sagaing Township National League for Democracy of Sagaing Division including U Tin Win of Nyaungbinwun Village, U Htay Aung of Myaingle Village, U Kyaw Tint of Ywathit Village, U Ka Byar of Maunghtaung Village, U Soe Myint of Meizalichaung Village, U Khin Maung Than of Kin Village, U Kho of Natkhayaing Village, U Ba Ohn of Lintalu Village, U Thaug Aye of Nondwin Village, U Khin Maung Win of Htonbo Village and U Aung Thein of Sayay Village on 10 September and U Win Soe of Thayagon Village of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township NLD on 9 September sent letters of resignation to the NLD (Headquarters) and local authorities of their own accord.

In the resignation letters sent to Sagaing and Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Subcommissions, they said that they lost interest in tasks of the NLD and they no longer wished to stand as members of the party. That was why they resigned from the party of their own volition, they said.

MNA

Horizon League Basketball Tournament continues

YANGON, 23 Sept — The Horizon League Basketball Tournament, jointly organized by Myanmar Basketball Federation and Horizon Int'l Education Centre, continued in Kyaikkasan Gymnasium this afternoon.

Filipino won over O'Vickon with 59-33 point while WHO beat Kandawgalay Club with 75-36 point. Cow Boy defeated CCY with 68-51 point in the men's events whereas Kandawgalay won over Glory with 49-15 points in the women's event.

The tournament continues on 30 September.

NLM

WHO team and Kandawgalay Club playing in Men's Horizon League Basketball Tournament.

NLM



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US admits nearly 10,000 from 'terrorism' states

WASHINGTON, 23 Sept — Nearly 10,000 people from countries designated as sponsors of terrorism have entered the United States under an immigration diversity programme with relatively few restrictions, a report released on Friday said.

The report by the US Government Accountability Office said the State Department's inspector general warned in 2003 that the Diversity Visa Programme posed a significant risk to national security and recommended it be closed to people from countries on the US list of state terrorism sponsors.

But four years later, the programme remains open to people from those nations and little is known about what becomes of them once they enter the United States, the GAO said.

From 2000 to 2006, the programme allowed 3,703 people from Sudan, 3,164

from Iran, 2,763 from Cuba and 162 from Syria to enter the United States and apply for permanent legal resident status, the report said. That totals 9,792 new immigrants.

"We found no documented evidence of ... immigrants from state sponsors of terrorism committing any terrorist acts," said the GAO, a nonpartisan investigative arm of Congress.

"However ... the Department of Homeland Security, terrorism experts and federal law enforcement officials familiar with immigration fraud believe that some individuals including terrorists and criminals could use fraudulent means to enter or remain in the United States."

MNA/Reuters



A Thai expert performs in-vitro fertilization at the Jetanin Institute in Bangkok in 2006. Two British clinics are pioneering a procedure that will allow human eggs to be grown in the laboratory from ovarian tissue samples, a newspaper said on Saturday.— INTERNET

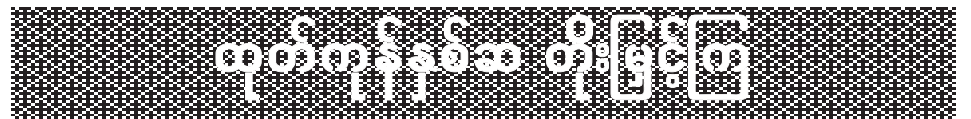
Earthquake jolts west Sumatra, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 22 Sept — A tectonic earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter Scale struck 104 kilometres southwest of Painan in west Sumatra, Indonesia, Friday night, but there was no reports of casualties and material losses, the Antara news agency said on Saturday.

The tremor, which took place at 8:33 pm West Indonesia Time (WIB), was located in 2.06 degrees south Latitude and 99.95 degrees east Longitude in a depth of 50 kilometres, the Indonesian Meteorology and Geophysics Agency (BMG) was quoted as saying. — MNA/Xinhua



Men push a van on a flooded highway in Soroti, 280km (168 miles) northeast of the capital Kampala, on 20 Sept, 2007. Since July, northern Uganda's heaviest rainfall for 35 years has triggered floods that killed 18 people, affected 300,000 and swept away more than 30 bridges, hampering aid efforts. — INTERNET



Chinese people surfing the Internet in Beijing. China is worse hit by computer hackers than any Western nation, a Chinese military expert was quoted as saying on Saturday in an apparent response to claims it was the source of attacks on US systems.—INTERNET

Britain confirms another case of FMD

LONDON, 22 Sept — British authorities said on Friday they had confirmed another case of foot and mouth on a farm in southern England and ordered the slaughter of its cattle.

The farm is within a three-kilometre (two-mile) protection zone previously set up around a farm infected with foot and mouth in the Surrey area.

Tight restrictions on the movement and sale of animals are in force within the protection zone.

"Positive test results for foot and mouth disease have now been confirmed at the site where it was decided that cattle should be slaughtered on suspicion earlier this evening," the Ministry of Agriculture said.

"The affected animals are within the existing protection zone and this now becomes the sixth infected premises since 3 August this year," it added.

Foot and mouth is a highly contagious disease that spreads easily on the wind. It can cause animals to foam at the mouth and collapse.— MNA/Reuters

US student arrested for wearing fake bomb at airport

WASHINGTON, 22 Sept — A female student was arrested on Friday after she was found strapping a fake bomb to her chest at a Boston International Airport. The 19-year-old student from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, identified as Star Simpson, was arrested about 8 am (1200 GMT) outside Terminal C, home to United Airlines, Jet Blue and other carriers, said police officers at the Logan International Airport.

The MIT sophomore from Hawaii has been charged with disturbing peace and possessing a hoax device and was set to be arraigned later in the day, police said, adding her motives were still unclear.

"She said that it was a piece of art and she wanted to stand out on career day," police officer Scott Pare said at a news conference. "She claims that it was just art, and that she was proud of art and she

wanted to display it."

An airport staffer at an information booth became suspicious after seeing Simpson wearing the device when she approached to ask about an incoming flight, and notified a nearby trooper.

The hoax evoked terrorism threats confronting the civil aviation system. In the 11 September terrorist attacks, two of the four hijacked passenger jets took off from Logan. MNA/Xinhua

Indonesian President to visit France in October

JAKARTA, 22 Sept — Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono is expected to discuss a wide range of issues with his French counterpart, Nicolas Sarkozy, when he visits France in October, said a visiting French official here Friday.

During the visit, the two

leaders would discuss investment between the two countries, nuclear energy, international issues of common concern, and the United Nations conference on climate change to be held in Bali in December, *Antara* news agency quoted French Junior Minister of Foreign

Affairs and Human Rights Rama Yade as saying.

In addition, they would also discuss relations between France and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) which groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, he said.

Rama Yade said President Yudhoyono's visit to France was a follow-up to the French Foreign Ministry delegation's visit to Indonesia early this year.

MNA/Xinhua

Poisonous liquor claims 18 lives in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 22 Sept — Eighteen people died and scores of others became ill or fell unconscious on Thursday after consuming poisonous liquor in southern Pakistan's metropolis Karachi, the local newspaper *The News* reported Friday.

Some local TV channels on Friday have put death toll at 27.

The victims, aged 25 to 55, belonged to the Muslim, Christian and Hindu communities, who were apparently getting liquor from a local source, said *The News* report.

The people consumed liquor individually at their residences, mostly on Wednesday night, and they after falling unconscious or becoming ill were shifted to the Karachi Civil Hospital at different

times during the day, according to the report, quoting a local senior police officer.

MNA/Xinhua

Visitors enjoy the first day of the Oktoberfest in Munich on 22 Sept, 2007. The 174th Oktoberfest starts on 22 Sept and ends on 7 Oct. — INTERNET



Chlorine leak sends 62 villagers to hospital in east China

HEFEL, 22 Sept — A chlorine leak from a chemical plant has put 62 villagers in hospital in east China's Anhui Province as of Friday.

Liquid chlorine leaked from a pipeline

at Tongling Chemical Co, Ltd of the Guangxin Group, in Tongling City, on Thursday morning and quickly spread to an adjacent village. Workers had repaired the pipeline an hour

later. Some of those who inhaled the fumes suffered headaches and vomiting, but doctors described them all as stable. Chlorine may cause coughing and breathing difficulties, serious poisoning may lead to a coma and suffocation.

Operations at the chemical plant specializing in the research and production of pesticides and chemical products, most of which are exported to European and Southeast Asian markets, have been suspended while the cause of the accident is investigated.

MNA/Xinhua

Art students paint portraits of famed Argentine revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara to commemorate the 40th anniversary of his death in La Paz on 22 Sept, 2007. INTERNET



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Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (2nd L) looks on as an armoured vehicle drives past by during a military parade to commemorate the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war in Teheran on 22 Sept, 2007. — INTERNET

Two US soldiers killed in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 22 Sept — Two US soldiers were killed and another injured in two incidents in northern Iraq on Thursday, the US military said on Friday.

A soldier was killed and another was wounded when an explosion struck their vehicle in the volatile province of Diyala, the military said in a statement.

The wounded soldier was transported to a US medical facility for treatment, it added.

Another soldier died in non-combat related incident in the province of Ta'mim near the provincial capital Kirkuk, some 250 kilometres north of Baghdad, a separate statement said without elaboration.

The incident is under investigation, it added.

MNA/Xinhua

Two British soldiers killed in southern Afghanistan

LONDON, 22 Sept — Two British soldiers were killed Thursday in a road accident in southern Afghanistan, the UK's Ministry of Defence confirmed.

"Two soldiers serving with the 2nd Battalion The Mercian Regiment (Worcesters and Foresters) have died in a road traffic accident in southern Afghanistan today," said the ministry.

The soldiers were taking part in a re-supply mission near Gereshk in Helmand Province, when the Pinzgauer vehicle they were travelling in left the road, the ministry said.

Both soldiers died at the scene, and no enemy forces were involved, the ministry added.

MNA/Xinhua

Romanian soldier killed, five wounded in Iraq

BUCHAREST, 22 Sept — One Romanian soldier was killed and five others were wounded early on Friday in Iraq, the Defence Ministry of Romania said.

Defence Minister Teodor Melescanu said the Romanian soldier was killed by the explosion of a makeshift device when he was on a patrol mission outside the Tallil military base. Another five Romanian troops were wounded in the blast when travelling in an armoured personnel carrier.

This is the second tragic incident that has occurred to Romanian troops in Iraq. — MNA/Xinhua

ECONOMIC NEWS

Chavez urges Brazil to offset US ties

MANAUS (Brazil), 22 Sept — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez urged Brazil on Thursday to accelerate trade and energy integration with his country to help counterbalance US interests in the region. The leader of the oil-rich Caribbean nation criticized Brazil for dragging its feet on his proposal to build a 20-billion-US-dollar pipeline from Venezuela to Argentina that would

supply much of South America with gas.

“We are very surprised there are people here that oppose (the pipeline),” Chavez said in the northern Brazil city of Manaus before a meeting with his Brazilian counterpart Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

“Venezuela has 80 per cent of South America’s proven gas reserves — let the Brazilians know that,” he said. The two left-wing leaders favour South

American integration as a counterbalance to the trade interests of rich countries but Lula has repeatedly distanced himself from Chavez’ anti-market and nationalist policies.

Chavez blamed the delays on Brazil’s state-owned oil company Petrobras, which had asked Venezuela to have its gas reserves certified before it would join the project he proposed years ago. “Petrobras has many opinions I sometimes don’t understand,” Chavez told reporters.

Without the 8,000-kilometres (5,000-mile) pipeline “lights will go out” for South American neighbours because the world is entering an energy crisis, he said.

MNA/Reuters



Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates in Cuzco, in 24 June, 2007 file photo. Gates is the richest person in America for the 14th year in a row, according to Forbes magazine’s latest list of the wealthiest Americans. — INTERNET

S’pore design exhibition to show “Hybricity Singapore” in Beijing

BEIJING, 22 Sept — A dress made by metal and plastic materials and landscape paintings by plywood, and all of these “strange” art works will be shown in Beijing next month.

The “Hybricity Singa-

pore”, an art designing exhibition, will be held in Beijing from 13 to 21 October as the first programme of The 2007 Singapore Season in China.

Seven groups of art works, including paint-

ings, jewellery, potteries and fashionable dressing, will be exhibited to show the cross-cultural viewpoints of Singapore designers.

Sauhoong Lim, a famous advertisement designer in Singapore, said “all what we learned in the past are our sources of creation, no matter which country or which culture they stemmed from”.

Tan Kay Ngee, a celebrated architect of Singapore, said “I use most popular architectural material plywood to re-explain the traditional Chinese art of paper cutting and paper folding.

It’s another kind of Chinese landscape painting”.

MNA/Xinhua



A model wears a creation by Archivio Privato as part of the New Upcoming Designers Spring/Summer 2008 women fashion collection unveiled in Milan, Italy, on 22 Sept, 2007. — INTERNET

Unilever to cut 315 jobs in UK, more losses likely

LONDON, 22 Sept — Consumer goods giant Unilever is to cut 315 jobs in Britain over the next 12 months as part of a worldwide cost-cutting

programme and warned of more losses as it launches reviews at three plants.

The move is part of the Anglo-Dutch group’s global plan, announced in

August, to cut 20,000 jobs out of its 180,000 workforce to speed up its recovery while it plans to sell slow-growing businesses such as its North American laundry unit.

The 315 job losses are from three of the group’s laundry and food factories and come out of a UK workforce of 8,000. Three more plants employing around 900 face likely job cuts when reviews are completed in April 2008, the group said on Thursday. Around 200 of the job losses come at Unilever’s Port Sunlight and Warrington plants in northwest England which produce Persil and Omo laundry products, and the remaining 115 at its Burton plant in central England making Marmite and Bovril.

The three plants under review are Purfleet just east of London, which makes spreads such as Flora, its Leeds factory in northern England producing deodorants such as Sure and Lynx, and its Pot Noddle plant at Crumlin in South Wales.—MNA/Reuters

Vietnam’s fertilizer imports up in first 8 months

HANOI, 22 Sept — Vietnam imported roughly 2.3 million tons of fertilizers totalling 548 million US dollars in the first eight months of this year, seeing respective year-on-year increases of 7.6 per cent and 19 per cent.

Between January and August, the country imported 403,000 tons of urea, mainly from China, Indonesia, Russia and the Middle East, valued at 104 million dollars, down 24.6 per cent and 20.2 per cent respectively, according to the country’s General Statistics Office on Friday.

Vietnam’s total demand for fertilizers in 2007 is estimated at nearly 7.9 million tons, and domestic supplies are

likely to stand at 4.7 million tons, according to the country’s Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Vietnam imported over three million tons of fertilizers, including

708,000 tons of urea, totalling 673 million dollars in 2006, up 5.9 per cent and 5.1 per cent, respectively, against 2005, said the statistics office.

MNA/Xinhua

Exhibitors of the Google company work on laptop computers in front of an illuminated sign of the Google logo at the industrial fair Hannover Messe in Hanover, Germany, in this 17 April, 2007 file photo. Google Inc’s stock reached a new high on 21 Sept, 2007.

INTERNET



Brazil confirms light oil discovery

RIO DE JANEIRO, 23 Sept — Brazil’s state-owned Petrobras confirmed on Thursday the existence of light oil in a second well in the Tupi exploration area in the Campos Basin off the coast of Rio de Janeiro State.

According to the company, tests showed that the well, located 2,166 metres underwater, can produce about 2,000 oil barrels per day.

MNA/Xinhua

UNSG calls for end of violence on Int'l Day of Peace

UNITED NATIONS, 22 Sept—Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon called Friday for an end of violence as the world organization marked the International Day of Peace.

Addressing the ceremony of ringing the Peace Bell on the lawn in front of the towering UN Headquarters in New York, Ban said, "Peace is the United Nations' highest calling".

"It defines our mission. It drives our discourse. And it draws together all of our worldwide work, from peacekeeping and preventive diplomacy to promoting human rights and development," the UN Chief said.

The Peace Bell, a gift from Japan, was cast from the pennies donated by children from 60 nations.

The International Day of Peace was first established by the UN General Assembly in 1981 as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence.

The UN General Assembly called on people around the world to use the day as an opportunity to promote peaceful resolution of conflicts and to observe a cessation of hostilities during the day.

UN staff throughout the world observed a minute of silence in the name of peace at the ceremony.

MNA/Xinhua



A reporter sits in front a projected image showing virus infected cells inspected under a microscope during a news conference in Hong Kong, in 27 March, 2003 file photo. This week they described how new research techniques are uncovering a host of new respiratory viruses — including a new, monster-sized virus — and spurring efforts to better understand the role of these viruses in disease. —INTERNET

Two students shot at Delaware State University

PHILADELPHIA, 22 Sept—Two students were shot and wounded early on Friday on the Delaware State University campus and police were hunting for a sole gunman, the school said on its website.

The students at the Dover, Delaware, school were taken to a hospital, university spokesman Carlos Holmes said. A female student had "potentially life-threatening" injuries, and the male student was in "stable condition", he said.

Holmes said a male suspect was still at large and students have been instructed to stay in their dormitories.

The university cancelled classes for the day and directed non-essential

personnel not to report to work.

"We have directed the student population to stay in their dormitories for their own safety.

If we see students out and about we are going to tell them to move inside," Holmes said.

He said the shooting occurred at 12:54 am EDT/0454 GMT and did not have any information about who the assailant was.

The university alerted students of the incident by telephone, the website and by flyers, its website said, adding that until the suspect is apprehended, students, faculty and staff are being directed to remain in their buildings.—MNA/Reuters

Hurricane "Dean" affects Mexican oil, natural gas production

MEXICO CITY, 22 Sept—Hurricane Dean has affected productivity in the oil fields of Mexico's state oil company (Pemex) in the Gulf of Mexico and in Campeche Sound, with a reduction of 10.8 million barrels of crude oil and 10.30

million cubic feet of natural gas.

Pemex informed on Thursday in a communique that in August 2007 crude-oil extraction was 2.8 million barrels a day, lower than in previous months.

Without hurricane Dean, crude-oil production would have been 3.2 million barrels a day and 6.2 billion cubic feet of gas per day, Pemex said. Pemex's earnings for crude-oil exports from 1 January to 31 August decreased by 7.1 per cent compared to the same period of 2006.

MNA/Xinhua



Traffic in Beijing. More than 100 Chinese cities including Beijing staged a "Car Free Day" to fight congestion and pollution, but the streets of the capital remained defiantly clogged with traffic jams.—INTERNET

Journalists jailed for writing against Indian ex-top judge

NEW DELHI, 22 Sept—An Indian court Friday sentenced three journalists and the publisher of a tabloid to four months in jail in connection with their articles against a former top judge of the country.

Delhi's High Court convicted *Mid-Day* newspaper resident editor Vitusha Oberoi, city editor

MK Tayal, publisher A K Akhtar and cartoonist Irfan of contempt of court, the *Indo-Asian News Service* (IANS) reported Friday.

They had alleged in their articles that Y K Sabharwal, as the Chief Justice of India, ordered sealing of commercial establishments in capital Delhi to benefit his sons,

who they claimed were close to big mall developers.

A division bench of Delhi's High Court held

all the four guilty of filing unfounded and unsubstantiated reports against Sabharwal.

MNA/Xinhua

Beirut car bomb death toll rises to 97

BEIRUT, 22 Sept—The casualty toll from the assassination bombing targeting the anti-Syrian lawmaker Antoine Ghanem reaches 97, Lebanese Hospitals' League released on Friday. Local Naharnet news website quoted the league's report as saying that Wednesday's lethal attack in east Beirut's suburb of Sin el-Fil killed five people and wounded 92. Besides Ghanem, his two body guards and two passersby were also killed in the explosion.

According to the released detail list, 54 of the wounded went back home same day of the blast after receiving emergency treatment at nine hospitals. The number of the hospitalized stands at 33, of which 17 remained in three hospitals by Friday.—MNA/Xinhua



Ancient bristlecone pine trees are seen on 13 Sept, 2007 in the White Mountains of the Inyo National Forest near Bishop, California. They have neither the soaring majesty nor the celebrity of the giant redwood, but in one respect the bristlecone pine is the undisputed king of trees: longevity. These gnarled, twisted specimens are the oldest living organisms on Earth, the most senior among them some 4,700 years old.—INTERNET

Myanmar's communication sector making dramatic progress

Kyaw Swa Nge

The role of Information and communication Technology becomes more and more important for economic growth of a nation and national development. Communication can be made in a short time through post, telegraph and telephone services between one person and another or one group and

success with a large number of post offices, telegraph offices, auto exchange stations along with microwave stations and local ground satellite stations that are scattering across the nation. As a result, people can communicate with other people in rural areas through microwave stations. DOMSAT stations through local

available.

In its bid to open a new page of the communication sector of the nation, the government is setting up communication facilities throughout the nation. It launched a 600-line digital auto exchange station in Daze, Sagaing Division, on 17 March 2007, a digital auto exchange station in Phakant Township, Kachin State, on 5 April, a 400-line digital auto exchange station in Myittha Township, Kyaukse District, Mandalay Division, on 11 April, and 50 manual telephones in Thitpokin communication station (branch), Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana District, Mandalay Division, on 18 May. Twenty-two towns have got digital auto exchange stations.

The government is taking steps to introduce advanced communications to enable the nation to keep abreast of the international community. Resulting from such prudent projects, the people now can contact between one region and another with convenience in states and divisions and can speed up their work and businesses. In addition, information services can be carried out speedily.

In the present era, news can be released and received effectively through microwave, e-Mail and Internet services. Information Technology is now applied effectively and on a wider scale to inform the people of what is going on at home and abroad, to broaden the horizons of the people, and to help the people accomplish their work in a short time.

Upto now, the number of the nation's post offices

has risen from 1114 in 1988 to 1347, depicting an increase by 233. The number of telegraph offices has increased to 494, up 184 from 310 in 1988. The number of telephone stations stood at 245 in 1988, and now the number has reached 894, indicating the progress of 649. And the number of microwave stations has surged from 71 in 1988 to 229, showing the number of 158 more facilities. And the number of Internet users is growing gradually.

In 1988, Myanmar had only one ground satellite station, and now there are two. The number of overseas ground satellite stations has grown from 21 in 1988 to 603, reflecting the progress of 582. And the number of public telephone channels has jumped from 26 in 1988 to 1764, displaying an increase by 1738.

Thanks to the measures the government

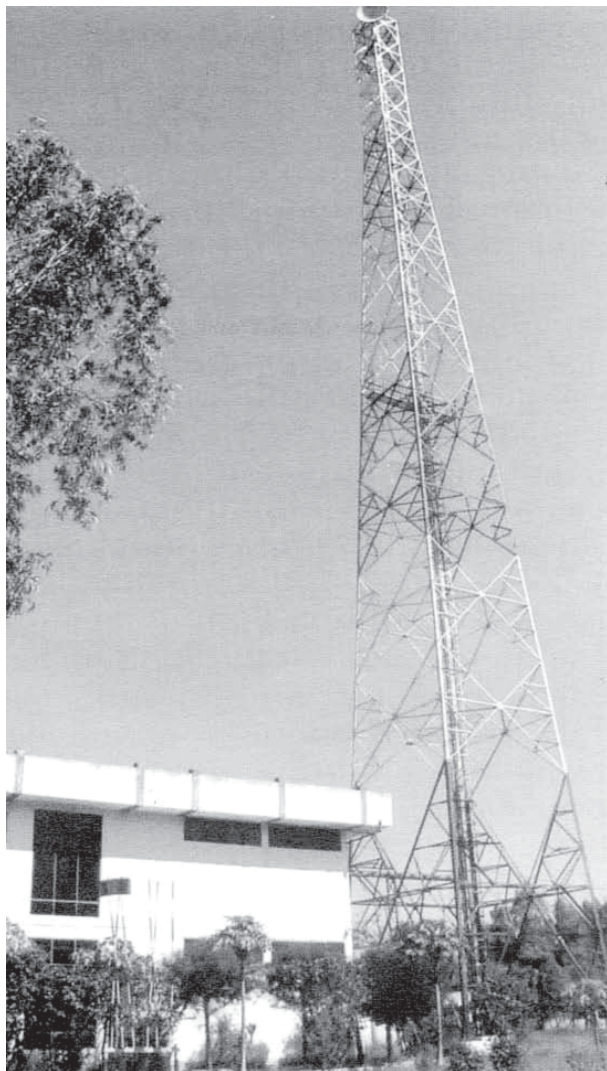


Post Office at Ahlon in Monywa District has been established for comfort and convenience of local people.— MYANMA ALIN

has taken to ensure smooth communication and improvement of Information Technology, there has cemented fraternal relations, trade, mutual help and friendship between one national race and another. The government is working

hard to help the nation catch up with international level communication systems necessary for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

(Translation: MS)
Myanma Alin:
23-9-2007



Microwave Station in Loikaw, Kayah State.— MYANMA ALIN

another.

In olden days, Myanmar lagged behind in communications. But now, the nation has achieved remarkable

ground satellite stations, VSAT stations, MPT satellite terminals have been installed in the regions where telephone stations were not

The number of overseas ground satellite stations has grown from 21 in 1988 to 603, reflecting the progress of 582. And the number of public telephone channels has jumped from 26 in 1988 to 1764, displaying an increase by 1738.



Kyaikkhami Auto Exchange Station is designed for convenience of local people in keeping in touch with other states and divisions.

MYANMA ALIN

Secretary-1 attends dinner hosted...

(from page 1)

and wife, ministers and their wives, deputy ministers, senior military officers, Myanmar Olympic Committee members, directors-general and officials of the SPDC Office, the Government Office, Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports, patrons of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation, the president of Myanmar Football Federation, chairmen and responsible persons of social organizations and invited guests.

Before dinner, the master of ceremonies introduced the members of victorious selected Myanmar women's football team to the audience.

In his speech, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein said the Myanmar women's soccer team is now to be handsomely awarded as their outstanding performance in the international event has exhibited Myanmar's sport standards and brought honour and dignity to the nation.

The government is striving for the improvement of Myanmar's sport standards as a national duty with the aim of showing Myanmar's high dignity and sport standards through victories in international sport events. And as a result of this, the nation has restored its status to win medals in international sports events.

As football is enjoyed by everyone regardless of sex and age, winning the international events like this is honorable for the entire national people. Actually, with nationalist spirit, all the people are having a strong desire to restore its former status in which Myanmar football arena was able to reach South-East Asia and Asia levels.

As such, it is a great honour for the entire people to see the selected Myanmar women's soccer team win AFF Women's Championship for the second time in three years.

At a time the government is encouraging the improvement of women's role in various sectors such as education, health, social affairs, culture, economy and sports with a view to training Myanmar women to catch up with those of international community, the improved football standards of Myanmar women are indeed a very significant point.

He said Myanmar women's soccer team participated in 18th SEA Games in 1995 for the first time and won third. It also won second in 19th SEA Games. Women's soccer tournament was not included in 20th SEA Games. Myanmar women's team placed third in 21st SEA Games and second in 22nd and 23rd SEA Games respectively.

The sport standard has improved considerably due to basic foundations on peace and tranquillity in the country, strong national economy and high standard of socio-economic life of the people. Therefore Myanmar athletes won prizes in international sport tournaments and they could bring honour to the State through the sports event by taking part in the championship with dynamism of patriotic spirit and united strength.



Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein hands over cash through the victorious Myanmar Women's Football Team.— MNA

He spoke of the success of Myanmar women's soccer team in AFF Women's Championship in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

He said the government's support and encouragement of the related departments, social organizations, artistes, entrepreneurs and the people brought about the victory of the women's selected team. This showed the desire to win, dynamic national strength and patriotism.

It is obvious that Myanmar patriotism and nationalistic spirit in sport field aroused the solidarity of the people, he said.

He said based on strength of the people the government is making strenuous efforts on its own way to enable Myanmar to raise the prestige of the nation and its people in economic, social, cultural and sport sectors.

The government is also making endeavours in every sector for the people to possess spirit of cherishing high, gentle own national culture and qualifications of good citizens with high morale who observe rules and regulations, he added.

The sport standard has improved considerably due to basic foundations on peace and tranquillity in the country, strong national economy and high standard of socio-economic life of the people. Therefore Myanmar athletes won prizes in international sport tournaments, and they could bring honour to the State through the sports event by taking part in the championship with dynamism of patriotic spirit and united strength.

In conclusion, the Secretary-1 urged the victorious women footballers to expedite concerted efforts to maintain the achievements with perseverance, diligence and sporting spirit as the State and the people are honouring them; and to place emphasis on uplifting the prestige of the State.

Next, the Secretary-1 and the Minister for Sports accepted K 1 million each for the Women's Football Team donated by Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar War Veterans Organization (Central), Myanmar Women's Sports Federation, Mandalay Division PDC, Sagaing Division PDC and Yangon City Development Committee; K 1.5 million by MOC; K 2.5 million by Yangon Division PDC; K 1 million by Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee; K 500,000 by Nay Pyi Taw Command; K 2.5 million by U Tint Hsan (Chairman of ACE Construction) and U Yan Win (Chairman of A-1

Construction); K 30 million by IGE Co; K 10 million each by Asia World Co Ltd, Htoo Trading Co Ltd, Max Myanmar Co Ltd, Kanbawza Bank and Jewellery Luck Co Ltd; K 5 million by Eyar Shwewa Co; K 2.5 million by U Chit Khaing (Chairman of Edin Construction); K 2 million by U Yup Zaw Khong and U Khun Sa (Pahok Duwa Co); K 1 million by U Ko Ko Htwe (Tawwin Family Co); K 5 million by Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd and Myanma Economic Corporation; K 1 million by U Aung Moe Kyaw (IBTC Co Ltd); K 300,000 by Dr Pandora Aung Gyi; K 1.2 million by U Zaw Win Naing (Kanbawza Bank Ltd); K 1 million each by Yangon Division Internal Revenue Department, Dr Aung Kyaw Oo-Dr Thet Thet Khaing (Shwe Nan Daw); CB Bank and Myanmar Oriental Bank Ltd; K 800,000 by ILBC students; K 500,000 by Yoma Bank; K 300,000 each by U Myo Paing (Asia Yangon Bank), Beauty Place, U Myo Myint (M3 Restaurant), U Myat Thinn Aung-Daw Khin Myint Myint (Aung Aung Enterprise), Golden Flower Co Ltd and U Thein Tun (Tun Foundation); K 200,000 each by Dr Khin Maung Win-Dr Wai Wai (Diamond Land), Daw Tin Latt Min, U Oo Khaing (Tetlan Construction), U Zaw Min, U Zaw Win (Super Coffeemix) and Dr Zaw Tun-Dr Htay Htay Kyi (SSC); K 100,000 each by Academy Htet Htet Moe Oo, Khant Sithu, Ya Wai Aung, Daw Than Than Aye (Shwekaung Hotpot), U Htet Nyi, U San Tun Aung, Daw Aye Aye Nyunt (KSS Biriyani), Daw Thet Thet Naing (Pearl Condominium), She Shine Gems, members of the Panel of Patrons of MWSF Dr Mya Sanda Khaing and Daw Aye Aye Kyi. Next, certificates of honour were presented to the wellwishers.

The Secretary-1 handed over the cash rewards to the Champion Myanmar Women's Football Team. Team Captain San San Maw spoke words of thanks.

MFF President U Zaw Zaw handed over the championship trophy of the 3rd AFF Women's Championship to Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint.

Afterwards, those present were presented with the documentary tapes on the championship.

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein and party had the dinner together with players of the Myanmar Women's Football team.

Today's cash rewards donated by wellwishers for the women footballers totalled K 131.6 million.

MNA

OUR LAND, OUR CUP



Champion Myanmar Women's Team joyfully poses for documentary photo. —NLM



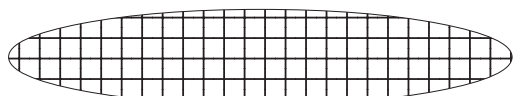
Myanmar women's team poses for group photo before the final match. — NLM



Chairperson Daw Aye Aye of Central Work Committee of Myanmar Women's Sports Federation posing for a photo together with victorious Myanmar women players.



Victorious Myanmar women footballers celebrating victory by lifting the State Flag.



Victorious Myanmar Women's Team and responsible persons seen with championship trophy after the final match.

President says sanctions will not stop Iran

TEHERAN, 23 Sept— Sanctions will not succeed in stopping Iran's nuclear progress, its president said on Saturday, a day after major powers said they had "serious and constructive" talks about new UN punitive measures.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, speaking at an annual military parade to commemorate the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war, also reiterated a call on US and other foreign forces to leave neighbouring Iraq, the official IRNA news agency said.

"Those who think, that by using such decayed tools as psychological

warfare and economic sanctions, they can stop the Iranian nation's progress are making a mistake," he said.

Iran is embroiled in a row with the West over its nuclear ambitions. The United States, which says Iran is trying to build an atomic bomb, has said it wants a diplomatic resolution to the stand-off but has not ruled out military action if that fails.

Iran, which says its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes, has threatened to hit back at US interests in the Middle East if attacked.

MNA/Reuters

Brown orders hospital deep clean against superbugs

LONDON, 23 Sept— Prime Minister Gordon Brown has ordered a deep clean of every hospital in Britain to tackle hospital "superbugs", he told the *News of the World*.

Every hospital will be disinfected and scrubbed clean over the next year, the Prime Minister wrote in an article for the Sunday newspaper which was made available ahead of time.

The National Health Service is currently being plagued by deadly infections such as Clostridium difficile, or C Diff, and MRSA, or methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, which are resistant to

treatment with most available antibiotics.

"A ward at a time, walls, ceilings, fittings and ventilation shafts will be disinfected and scrubbed clean," Brown wrote.

A recent report found British hospitals were among the worst in Europe for superbugs, behind poorer European Union members in the ex-Communist East like Slovakia and Poland.

Britain has also scored lower than other European countries in studies on survival rates for cancer and stroke victims, despite spending far more in many cases on treatment.

MNA/Reuters



Head of Russian space agency Roskosmos, Anatoliy Perminov said on Friday he hoped a new spacecraft launch site would be built in the Russian far east by 2020 to supplement the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.—INTERNET



A woman on her computer in an undated photo. Computer security experts estimate that tens of millions of personal computers are infected with malicious software like the one that attacked Locklear's machine. Such programmes, generally classified as malware, attack companies along with consumers. — INTERNET

Putin does not prefer weak successor

MOSCOW, 23 Sept — Russian President Vladimir Putin said he would do his best to ensure the independence and strength of the country's new president, who is expected to replace him after next March's election, *ITAR-TASS* news agency reported on Friday.

"I'm not interested in having a weak Russian President," *ITAR-TASS* quoted Putin as saying during a meeting with members of the international discussion club Valdai.

"I want our country to have a President that is not only self-sufficient,

but also a person that would be effectively fulfilling his duties and obligations before the people," Putin told the guests, who visited his residence Bocharov Ruchei in the southern Russian city of Sochi on Thursday.

"It will be a factor with which the future President, in fact, will have to reckon with. And it goes without saying that we will have to reach an agreement on how to function," said Putin, who is in his second term.

Putin promised he will do everything to ensure the independence and

strength of the new head of state.

"Russia cannot be strong with a weak presidential power...I'm not going to reduce to zero all that has been done in recent years with my own hands," Putin said.

Putin dissolved the government and appointed little-known former financial law enforcement chief Viktor Zubkov as Prime Minister last week, who has voiced the possibility of joining the presidential race.

The new Cabinet is expected to be formed on Friday.

MNA/Xinhua

Blackwater denies making illegal weapons exports

WASHINGTON, 23 Sept — Private US security contractor Blackwater USA denied on Saturday it was involved in illegally shipping automatic weapons and military goods to Iraq.

The statement by the company, whose contractors were accused by the Iraqi Government of killing 11 people in

Baghdad this week, came after a newspaper report that federal officials are investigating whether Blackwater exported unlicensed military hardware into Iraq.

"Allegations that Blackwater was in any way associated or complicit in unlawful arms activities are baseless. The company has no knowledge of

any employee improperly exporting weapons," the company said in a statement.

"This issue is completely unrelated" to Blackwater's US government programmes in Iraq, said the company, based in Moyock, North Carolina. It employs around 1,000 contractors to protect the US mission in Iraq and its diplomats from attack.

The News & Observer of Raleigh, North Carolina reported that two former Blackwater employees have pleaded guilty in Greenville, North Carolina, to weapons charges and are cooperating with the federal investigation.

MNA/Reuters

Poland says no decision on US anti-missile shield

WARSAW, 23 Sept — Polish Prime Minister Jaroslaw Kaczynski said Friday that no decision has been made on the erection of a US anti-missile shield in northern Poland.

But he said the shield if installed in Redzikowo, a village in northern Poland, would benefit the local community, providing jobs and business for local enterprises.

"Talks are underway. We have our expectations connected with this project and only when these matters are off the table will decisions fall," Kaczynski said while inspecting the northern province Pomorskie with Interior Minister Wladyslaw Stasiak.

The United States

wants to deploy part of its anti-missile shield in eastern Europe — a radar system in the Czech Republic and a missile interceptor site in Poland. Polish-US talks on the possible deployment have been going on since May.

MNA/Xinhua



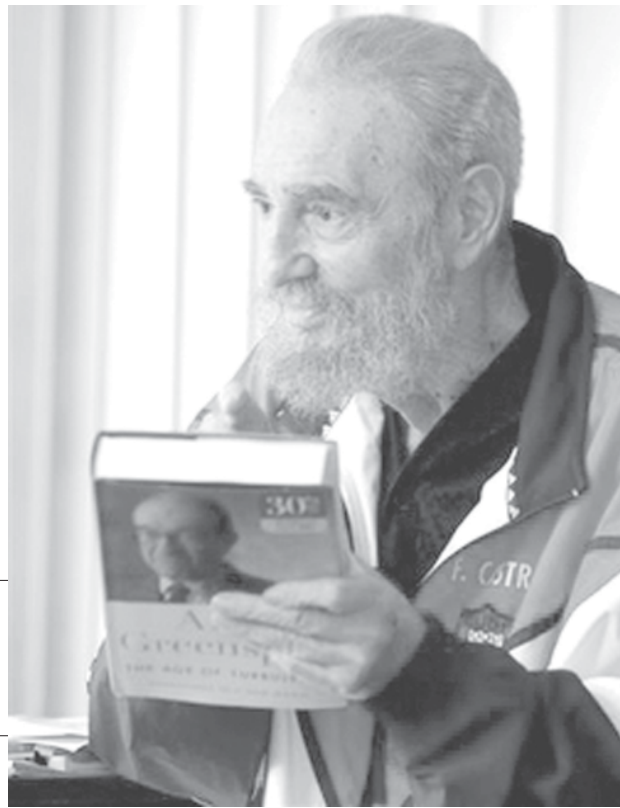
Argentina's players listen to their national anthem before the start of their Group D Rugby World Cup match against Namibia in Marseille on 22 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

Castro reappears to quash death rumours

HAVANA, 23 Sept — Cuban leader Fidel Castro appeared in his first television interview in more than three months on Friday, ending speculation that the ailing revolutionary had died or suffered a major relapse. Castro, 81, spoke slowly about world affairs, the Cold War and the global economy, but appeared little changed from the last time he was shown in a state television interview on 5 June.

“Here I am,” Castro said, rebuffing those who have speculated that he was at death’s door, already dead or about to die. “Nobody knows when he is going to die.” — MNA/Reuters

Cuba’s leader Fidel Castro speaks during an interview while holding a book written by former US Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan in Havana, on 21 Sept, 2007.— INTERNET



An Indian tribal man talking on his mobile phone. The number of Indian mobile phone subscribers has passed the 200 million mark after the country added another eight million customers last month.— INTERNET



India registers over 240 mln telephone customers

NEW DELHI, 23 Sept — Telephone subscribers in India numbered more than 240 million at the end of August, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported Friday, quoting the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

India’s wireless subscriber base alone has crossed the 200- million mark, it said.

In July, India’s total telecom subscriber base was 232.87 million, according to TRAI. About 8.31 million new subscribers were added to the wireless segment in August.

However, the subscriber base of India’s landline segment, which has the lowest tariff in the country, came down by 0.16 million to stand at 39.73 million by the end of August.

But broadband connections currently number 2.56 million with the addition of 0.09 million new subscribers in the period. — MNA/Xinhua

UN says deal reached on cutting ozone-damaging emissions

OTTAWA, 23 Sept— Delegates from almost 200 countries agreed late on Friday to eliminate ozone-depleting substances faster than originally planned, the United Nations said.

The agreement was reached at a conference in Montreal to mark the 20th anniversary of the Montreal protocol, which was designed to cut chemicals found to harm the ozone layer. The layer protects the Earth from ultraviolet radiation.

The United States — backed by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) — had urged delegates to move the deadline for phasing out production and use of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC) for developed countries to 2020 from 2030 and to 2030 from 2040 for developing nations.

“A deal which UNEP believes is historic has been reached on the accelerated freezing and phase-out of HCFCs,” said UNEP spokesman Nick Nuttall.

He said details of the deal would be unveiled at a news conference in Montreal at 10 am (1400 GMT) on Saturday.

HCFCs are used in air conditioners and refrigerators. Holes in the ozone layer are blamed for increased risk of cancer and cataracts in humans.

Nuttall said the deal still had to be approved by a plenary session of the conference, adding that he did not expect there to be any problems or delays.

MNA/Reuters

Brazil urged to speed up energy cooperation with Venezuela

RIO DE JANEIRO, 23 Sept— Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez urged Brazil on Thursday to speed up energy cooperation with his country and pushed for construction of a gas pipeline from Venezuela to Argentina.

“We are very surprised there are people here that oppose (the pipeline),” Chavez said in the northern Brazilian city of Manaus before a meeting with his Brazilian counterpart Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

The pipeline, spanning from Venezuela to Argentina, would supply much of South American with gas. Brazil’s state-owned oil company Petrobras and Venezuela’s state-run PDVSA would work together to design a pipeline proposal, Lula said after the meeting.— MNA/Xinhua

US Govt collects data on overseas American travellers

WASHINGTON, 23 Sept — The US Government is collecting electronic data on the travel habits of millions of Americans who take trips overseas, *The Washington Post* reported Saturday.

Officials say the records, which are analyzed by the department’s Automated Targeting System, help border officials distinguish potential terrorists from innocent people entering the country, the paper said.

Shown in documents obtained by a civil liberties group, the government started since the mid-1990s to compile data including travel companions, the personal items, and even the books travellers carried.

It is part of the Department of Homeland Security’s effort to assess the security threat posed by all travellers entering the country, according to the paper.

MNA/Xinhua

Sinopec, DuPont launch chemicals joint venture

BEIJING, 23 Sept — China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Sinopec) on Friday announced a new joint venture to produce ethylene vinyl acetate resins (EVA) with DuPont Packaging and Industrial Polymers.

Production of EVA, used in products such as packaging materials, adhesives, footwear and clothing, is due to begin in late 2008 at a new plant to be built at the existing facility of Sinopec Beijing Yanshan Company in Beijing.

The venture would be 55 per cent owned by Sinopec and 45 per cent owned by DuPont, with an annual production capacity of about 60,000 tons.

The new facility will help meet the fast growing demand for EVA products in China, said Sinopec. Listed in London and Shanghai, Sinopec is the largest oil refiner in China.

MNA/Xinhua

The new facility will help meet the fast



Powered paraglide flies over the Lucko airport during an air show near Croatia’s capital of Zegreb on 22 Sept, 2007.

INTERNET

ADVERTISEMENT

FM says US missile-shield bases in E Europe threatens Russia

Moscow, 22 Sept — Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Friday that the US plan to build missile-shield bases in Eastern Europe poses a threat to Russia to which his country will respond.

“We see a threat and we are preparing a response to it,” Lavrov said in a televised interview Friday.

“Any action calls for a counteraction ...this is the law of the genre. This is the obligation of militaries, the obligation for the commander in chief to guarantee the maximally effective answer to any threat,” he said. He added that building the missile-shield system is likely to spark a new arm race. “And this for sure will stimulate the scientists on that side of the ocean, the military-industrial complex, to build some sort of more effective type of weapons. But our guys also won’t be sitting on their hands.”

On Tuesday, a team of US military experts visited a radar facility rented by Russia in Azerbaijan, which Moscow has offered as an alternative to the planned US system.

MNA/Xinhua

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Dated: 24 September 2007

Ten more found guilty over biggest dog-fight

LONDON, 22 Sept — Ten people were convicted on Thursday over one of the biggest dog fights ever uncovered in Britain, prompting warnings from animal welfare experts that the illegal sport may be growing in popularity.

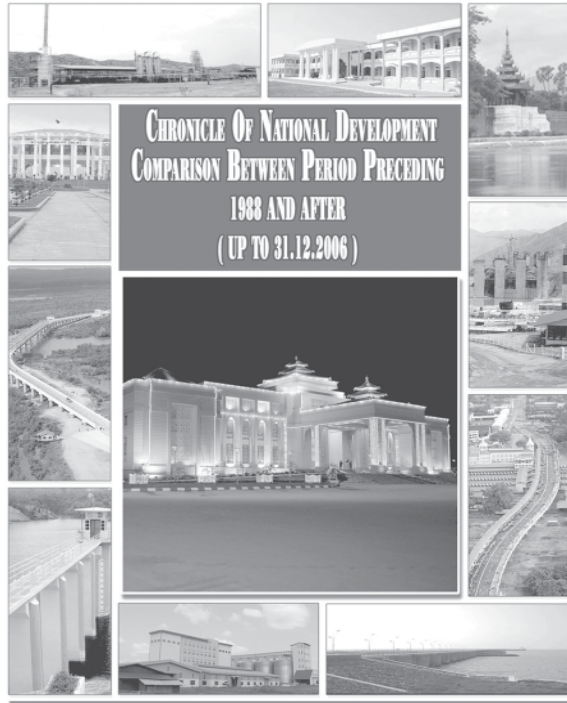
It brings to 26 the total number convicted in connection with the “sadistic” fight, in which two pit bull terriers were forced to attack each other in a carpeted pit.

The dogs suffered horrific injuries during the fight, which lasted at least 1-3/4 hours, the Royal Society for the Prevention

of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) said.

One of them, called Bullet, died soon after the fight. The second dog, Elvis, was put to sleep two days later. Police made so many arrests that they had to flag down a double-decker bus to take the suspects to the police station.

“This was one of the longest, most brutal and most highly attended dog fights we have ever come across,” said RSPCA Chief Inspector Ian Briggs. “If we are entering a new era of dogfighting, then we need to stamp it out fast.”—MNA/Reuters



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Ph: 240363,240373

Indonesia cautions world crude oil price hike

JAKARTA, 22 Sept — Indonesian Trade Minister Mari Elka Pangestu has said she would monitor the world crude oil price hike reaching 82 US dollars per barrel as it would have a wide-ranging impact on export commodities and basic necessities, the Antara news agency reported on Saturday.

“What is more important to caution is about its impact on the world economic growth which may also affect the demand for our export commodities,” the minister said on Friday, quoted by the agency.

A change in the price of world crude oil would have an impact on the prices of other commodities like crude palm oil (CPO) and wheat, she said.

MNA/Xinhua

Mysterious deaths of Californian blue whales puzzle scientists

LOS ANGELES, 22 Sept — Another dead blue whale was washed ashore on a Southern Californian beach on Friday, puzzling scientists about the cause of its death.

This is the third blue whale that was washed shore on Southern Californian beaches in less than two weeks.

Puzzled experts were trying to determine why at least three of the huge mammals have died off the Southern California

coast in such a short time.

Tracked by government aircraft, the 60-foot blue whale — a member of the largest species on earth — was seen drifting toward the Ventura County coast since Thursday.

Last week, a dead blue whale beached about 10 miles (16 kilometres) up the coast from Ventura and another was found in Long Beach Harbor before being towed out to sea.

Joe Cordaro, a wildlife

biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service, said he could not recall a similar spate of blue whale deaths off California or anywhere else.

“There’s something a little different going on right now,” he said, “and we don’t know what it is”.

Biologists have launched an investigation into the cause of the deaths.

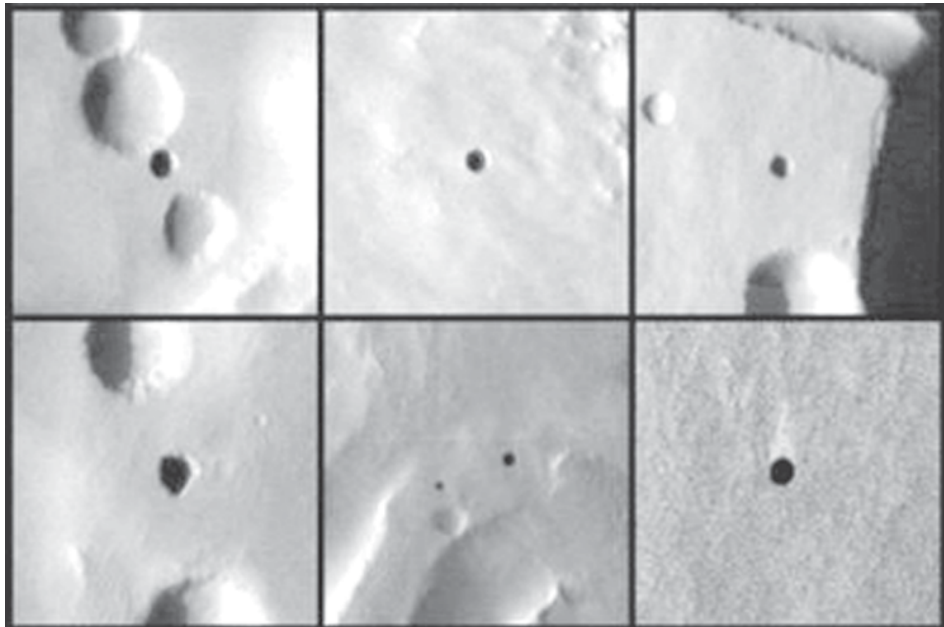
The whale that washed ashore last week had numerous broken bones,

suggesting it was hit by a ship in one of the Santa Barbara Channel’s busy shipping lanes.

Blue whales, the largest animal on earth, have been migrating through the Santa Barbara Channel on the California coastline, but how the three ones that drifted onto the beaches one by one will not be known until scientists have extracted tissues and examined its vast body.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့



Seven very dark holes on the north slope of a Martian volcano are seen in this undated handout photo. An orbiting spacecraft has found evidence of what look like seven caves on the slopes of a Martian volcano, the space agency NASA said on Friday. — INTERNET

Severe challenges warned to peaceful use of N-energy

VIENNA, 22 Sept — Experts warned here on Thursday that the development of the peaceful use of nuclear energy in the world would face severe challenges over the next 25 years.

As the demand for energy and nuclear technology is expected to increase fast in the coming 25 years, the huge capital cost of nuclear

infrastructure, the acute shortages of trained human resources and the associated lack of infrastructure would restrain the extension and application of nuclear technology in developing countries, said experts in a report submitted to the 2007 Scientific Forum of the 51st Regular Session of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) General Conference.

Moreover, the increasing worry about nuclear safety and proliferation would also

challenge the development of nuclear energy in the future, said the report, titled "Global Challenges and the Development of Atomic Energy: The Next 25 Years". The overall world energy demand would rise probably by around 50 per cent or even more in the next 25 years, with two-thirds occurring in the developing countries, according to the report.

The report also called on the IAEA to continuously strengthen the international nuclear safeguard and inspection mechanism, and to play a more important role in promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy and non-proliferation. As part of the IAEA General Conference, the two-day forum which ended on Wednesday drew IAEA Director-General Mohamed ElBaradei and many international experts on nuclear application.

MNA/Xinhua

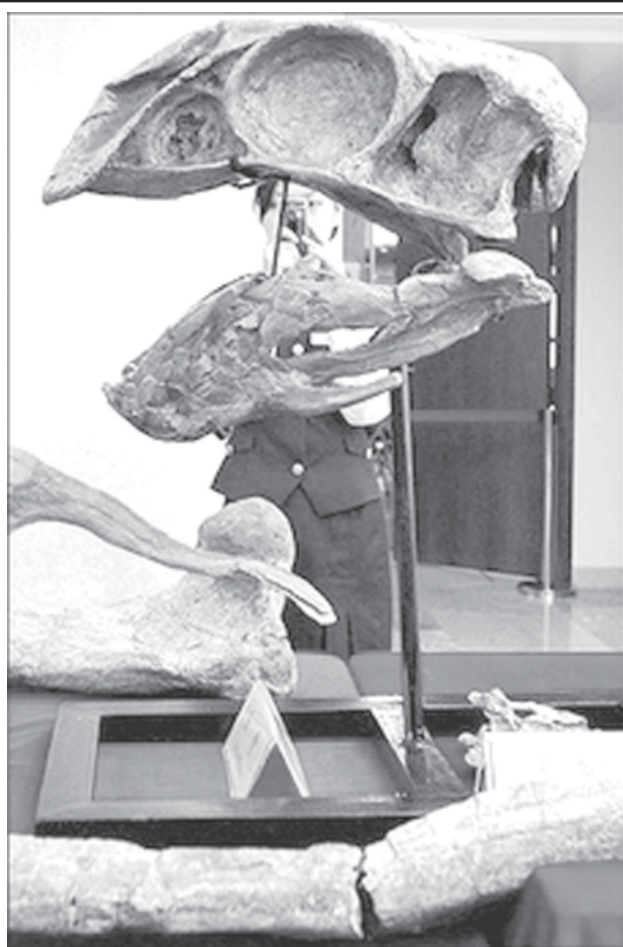
Billionaires increase sharply in New York City in 2006

NEW YORK, 22 Sept — The number of billionaires in New York City has grown by more than 40 per cent in the last year, according to the Forbes 400 report released on Friday.

The total net worth of the 64 billionaires, compared to 45 last year, has risen 370 per cent to 224 billion US dollars, the city's 24-hour news channel NY1 News quoted the report as saying. In contrast, the net worth of the nearly two million city residents living below the federal poverty line remained at 3.45 billion dollars, about the same as the previous year.

That means the 64 richest New Yorkers have 64 times the money of the city's poorest 1.7 million residents.

Forbes 400 lists the city's wealthiest resident as David Koch, the executive vice president of Koch Industries — a conglomerate with major oil and gas holdings. — MNA/Xinhua



Fossilized bones of a dinosaur are put on display for the media in Beijing, in a file photo. Chinese scientists said on Friday they had found fossils belonging to six baby dinosaurs that died in a volcanic mudflow 125 million years ago. INTERNET

India plans to launch reusable spacecraft

NEW DELHI, 22 Sept — India is planning to launch a reusable launch vehicle (RLV) by early 2009, the Press Trust of India (PTI) Friday quoted a top scientist as saying.

"We are working on a demonstrator of the reusable launch vehicle. We hope to launch it by early 2009," B N Suresh, director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, said in the south Indian city of Hyderabad.

The reusable vehicle, which aims at testing hypersonic aerodynamics, will be launched from Sriharikota in southern state of Andhra Pradesh, the Indian Space Research

Organization (ISRO's) launch centre.

It would be a precursor to mastering technologies related to reusable launch

vehicles and would take off vertically, go into the right atmosphere, then fly out of the dense atmosphere, the scientist

said. The RLV is forerunner of the Indian version of the space shuttle.

MNA/Xinhua

UAE launches charity initiative to help one million children

ABU DHABI, 21 Sept — Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) launched a charity initiative to help one million children in developing countries, local newspaper *Khaleej Times* reported on Thursday.

Under the initiative, a

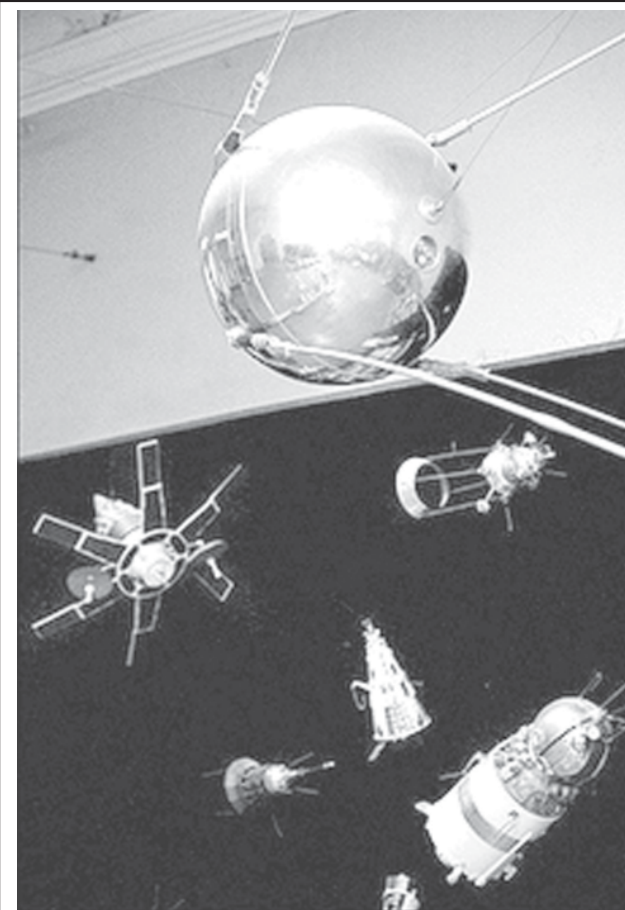
fund named "Dubai Cares" will be raised in a six-week campaign, the report said. The money raised will go to countries which lack resources for education and face major impediments to growth and stability.

"The campaign will assist countries in achieving their UN Millennium Development Goals set eight years ago

for providing primary education to every child by 2015," Sheikh Mohammed was quoted as saying.

"The millennium development goals, which the countries pledged to fulfil, emphasized on education as the best long-term solution to alleviate poverty in the developing world," he added.

MNA/Xinhua



A replica of the first Russian "Sputnik" satellite (top), which was launched on 4 Oct, 1957 to start a new era of space exploration, hangs over models of other Russian spacecrafts at the Politech museum in Moscow. Fifty years after the launch of the first man-made satellite, the global space industry gathers in India next week to find ways to benefit humanity — and make money in the process. — INTERNET

SPORTS

Barclays Premier League Table

23 September 2007

	P	GD	PTS
1 Arsenal	6	11	16
2 Man Utd	7	4	14
3 Man City	7	3	13
4 Liverpool	6	9	12
5 Newcastle	6	4	11
6 Chelsea	7	-1	11
7 West Ham	6	3	10
8 Aston Villa	6	3	10
9 Everton	7	0	10
10 Blackburn	6	1	9
11 Portsmouth	7	0	9
12 Wigan	7	1	8
13 Middlesbrough	7	-2	8
14 Birmingham	7	-2	8
15 Sunderland	7	-4	8
16 Reading	7	-6	7
17 Fulham	7	-2	6
18 Tottenham	7	-2	5
19 Bolton	7	-4	4
20 Derby	7	-16	4



Fulham's Diomansy Kamara, top, competes with Manchester City's Richard Dunne during their English Premier League soccer match at Craven Cottage, London, on 22 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

Bremen thump Stuttgart to revive campaign

BERLIN, 23 Sept — Hugo Almeida scored twice in two minutes to help injury-hit Werder Bremen to a convincing 4-1 victory over champions VfB Stuttgart in the Bundesliga on Saturday. The two heavyweights made disappointing starts to the season, winning only two of their first five

matches, and were looking to bounce back from mid-week Champions League defeats. A rampant Bremen made a spectacular start, racing into a 2-0 lead inside four minutes after Almeida beat Stuttgart keeper Raphael Schaefer with sharp strikes from the edge of the box.

Victory for Argentine champions San Lorenzo

BUENOS AIRES, 23 Sept — Holders San Lorenzo won 3-1 at Rosario Central while Osvaldo Ardiles's Huracan were held 2-2 at home by Colon in the Argentine championship.

Huracan, who lost their first two games under former Argentina midfielder Ardiles before beating San Martin last

week, dominated Friday night's match but were foiled by a late penalty.

Colon took a fifth-minute lead when Sebastian Romero broke down the right, cut inside and scored with a left-foot shot.

Franco Mendoza equalized with a powerful drive from the edge of the penalty area in the 51st minute and Federico Nieto gave Huracan a deserved lead when he fired into the roof of the net in the 73rd.

But the visitors stole a point when Dario Gandin converted a penalty four minutes later.

The draw left the two teams in mid-table with 13 points, Huracan from 10 games and Colon nine.

MNA/Reuters

MNA/Reuters

Man Utd 2-0 Chelsea

LONDON, 23 Sept — Manchester United added to Chelsea woes by beating their rivals in Avram Grant's first game in charge of the Blues after Jose Mourinho's exit.

Chelsea put in a resolute showing but had Mikel Jon Obi harshly sent-off for a rash tackle on Patrice Evra.

United then went ahead after first-half injury-time had elapsed with a near post Carlos Tevez header.

Chelsea stubbornly kept the deficit to one goal until Louis Saha's spot-kick after a foul on him by

Tal Ben Haim.

The Chelsea players had been firmly under the microscope at the start of the game after Mourinho's exit and came away with their pride intact after a battling display.

They traded high-five's and hugs in a show

of unity as they gathered together just before kick-off.

But, if there was any semblance of fragility about the Blues's resolve, United quickly tried to expose it as they took a stranglehold of the game.

INTERNET



Tevez nods in for his first goal for Man Utd.

INTERNET

South Africa's captain Bobby Skinstad pulls the jersey of Tonga's Epeli Taione during the Rugby World Cup Group A match between South Africa and Tonga, on Saturday, in Lens, northern France.

INTERNET



Leaders Arsenal crush Derby with Adebayor treble

LONDON, 23 Sept — Togo striker Emmanuel Adebayor scored his first hat-trick in English football on Saturday and proved he is ready to replace former captain Thierry Henry as the attacking talisman of a vibrant Arsenal team.

Arsenal consolidated their position on top of the Premier League with a 5-0 victory over struggling Derby County, leaving most observers satisfied that the team no longer misses Henry, who left the club to join Barcelona.

"Yes, he has great potential," Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger told reporters. "But we have

him and Robin Van Persie scoring goals and we have others who are also very capable of scoring.

"Now it is down to us to prove we can go on and go as far as we want to. We kept our focus after the Champions League (win in midweek over Sevilla) and it was nice to see the players enjoy the game so much.— MNA/Reuters

Answers to yesterday's Crossword Puzzle

1	S	T	E	A	L		4	G	I	R	D	E	R	
	A	A	O			8	C		N	E		U		
9	L	I	G	H	T	E	R		10	S	C	R	U	B
	U	E	H				U		E	R		B		
11	T	O	R	N			12	D	E	C	L	I	N	E
	E				13	T	I	E		U	C		R	
		14	C	H	E	W			16	R	A	K	E	
17	B		A		I		18	D	U	E			19	H
20	A	B	S	O	L	V	E		21	B	E	A	U	
	R		T		I		N		23	T	P		S	
24	S	W	I	N	G		25	S	E	R	I	O	U	S
	A		L		H		E		U	C		A		
26	C	O	Y	O	T	E			27	E	T	H	E	R

Hadji heads Nancy to 2-0 win against Lorient

PARIS, 23 Sept — Youssouf Hadji's double in the last 10 minutes gave leaders Nancy a 2-0 victory over Lorient in Ligue 1 on Saturday.

The Lorraine side, who have a game in hand of their main rivals, have 19 points from eight games and lead Valenciennes by two points after the northern side beat Monaco 1-0 courtesy of a Johan Audel first-half goal.

Nancy, who slumped to their first league defeat of the season last weekend at RC Lens, showed patience before prevailing against Lorient.

Morocco midfielder Hadji headed home David Sauget's cross after 80 minutes to give Nancy the lead and put the result beyond doubt six minutes later with another header.

Le Mans are in third place three points off the pace after a 1-0 win at Racing Strasbourg through Romaric's first-half goal.— MNA/Reuters



India's Yuvraj Singh, left, plays a shot as Australia's Adam Gilchrist looks on during their Twenty World Championship Cricket match in Durban, South Africa, on 22 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

Serbia warns US, NATO not to "snatch" Kosovo

BELGRADE, 23 Sept — Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica warned the United States, NATO and Kosovo Albanians on Saturday they would be responsible for devastating consequences if they "snatch" Kosovo and declare it independent.

Serbia is offering wide autonomy for Kosovo. The Albanians, who have been under UN rule for eight years, want full independence. They are to hold direct talks in New York next week and have until 10 December before a report must go to the UN.

"This time, they will implement a different

strategy — unilateral recognition of independent Kosovo," Kostunica predicted in an interview with *Vecernje Novosti* newspaper.

Asked what Serbia could do, Kostunica said: "One must clearly warn of the devastating consequences of such violence, which has not

happened since the UN was established. And that's what we do all the time."

He did not elaborate, but he appeared to be speaking of "violence" that would be done to international law.

Kostunica said there were differences in his coalition government on how Serbia should respond

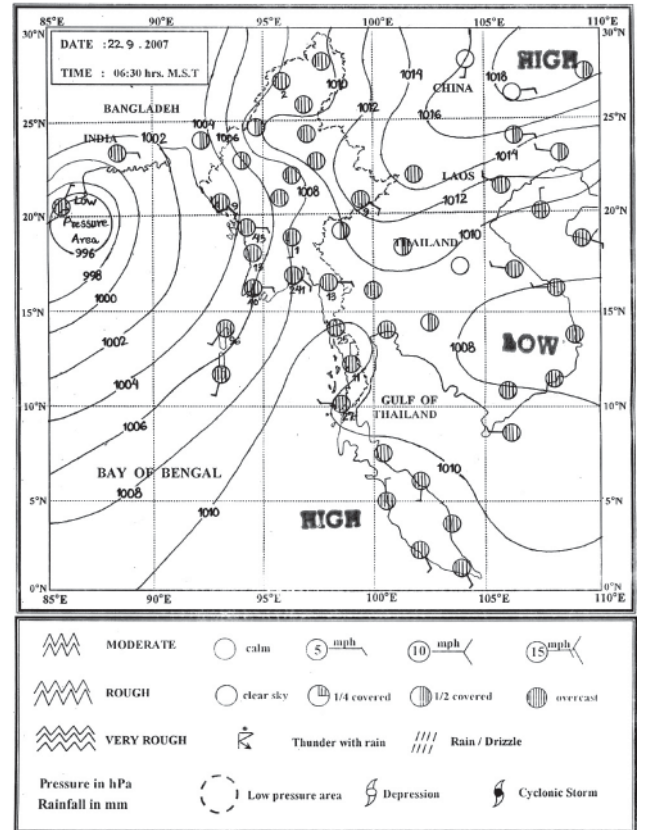
to an independence declaration, but said Belgrade would focus diplomatic reprisals on NATO states that he believes instigated secession.

"We must make a difference between the main player, without whom the whole issue of independence would have never been raised. That is NATO," he said.

"This has nothing to do with the European Union. Not for the slightest moment have we questioned Serbia's European integration. Besides, a number of EU members are not NATO members."

MNA/Reuters

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Sunday, 23 September, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Shan and Kayah States, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayin and Mon States, scattered in Kachin State, Sagaing and Mandalay Divisions, fairly widespread in Bago and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions with isolated heavyfall in Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Yangon (Central) (2.64) inches, Kyaukpadaung (2.32) inches, Yangon (Kaba-Aye) (2.20) inches, Hinthada (1.65) inches, Meiktila (1.61) inches, Thayawady (1.45) inches and Kawthoung (1.42) inches.

Maximum temperature on 22-9-2007 was 80°F. Minimum temperature on 23-9-2007 was 70°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 23-9-2007 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 22-9-2007 was (Nil).

Rainfall on 23-9-2007 was (1.34) inches at Mingaladon, (2.20) inches at Kaba-Aye and (2.64) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (122.76) inches at Mingaladon, (127.48) inches at Kaba-Aye and (132.84) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from Southeast at (17:30) hours MST on 22-9-2007.

Bay inference: According to the observations at (06:30) hr MST today, the low pressure area over West Central Bay and adjoining Northwest Bay has intensified into a depression, has crossed over the Orissa Coast near Puri (India). Weather is cloudy in the North Bay and monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 24-9-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in lower Sagaing Division, Kachin, Shan, Kayin and Kayah States, scattered in upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Mon State, Bago and Taninthayi Divisions and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

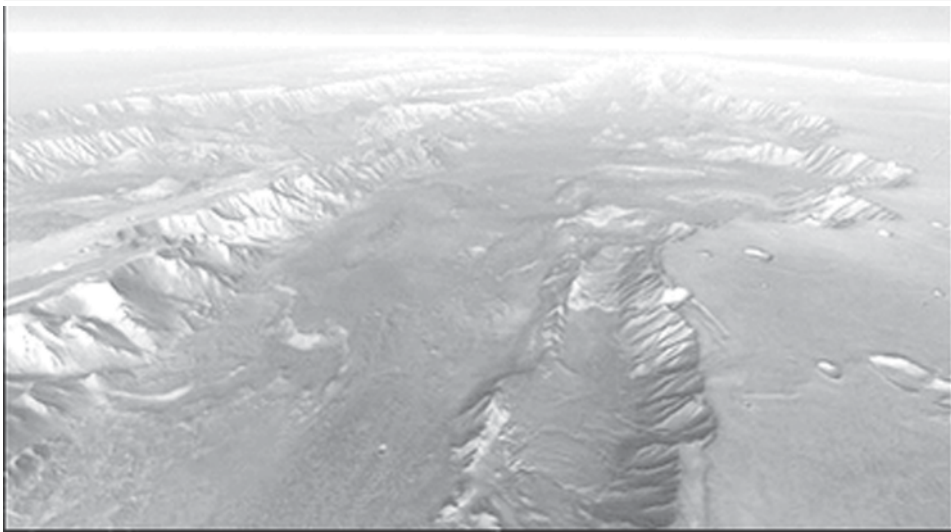
State of the sea: Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and long Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) to (40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of thunder conditions in the Deltaic areas.


Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 24-9-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 24-9-2007: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 24-9-2007: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).




Mars as seen from NASA's Mars Odyssey orbiter. A NASA spacecraft found seven possible cave entrances on Mars, triggering interest in hunting for other caverns that might be hiding life on the Red Planet, the US space agency said on Friday.—INTERNET



Monday, 24 September
View on today

<p>7:00 am</p> <p>1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့၊ အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌဂုရု၊ အဘိဓမ္မအဂ္ဂမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော်ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာ ဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်</p> <p>7:25 am</p> <p>2. To be healthy exercise</p> <p>7:30 am</p> <p>3. Morning news</p> <p>7:40 am</p> <p>4. Nice and sweet song</p> <p>7:55 am</p> <p>5. Song of national races</p> <p>8:05 am</p> <p>6. Cute little dancers</p> <p>8:20 am</p> <p>7. ဘိုင်းဒါးရေလွဲဆည်</p> <p>8:30 am</p> <p>8. International news</p>	<p>8:45 am</p> <p>9. Grammar Made Easy</p> <p>4:00 pm</p> <p>1. Martial song</p> <p>4:15 pm</p> <p>2. Song to uphold National Spirit</p> <p>4:30 pm</p> <p>3. Musical programme</p> <p>4:40 pm</p> <p>4. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -ဒုတိယနှစ် (ရက္ခဗေဒအထူးပြု) (ရက္ခဗေဒ)</p> <p>4:55 pm</p> <p>5. Dance variety</p> <p>5:05 pm</p> <p>6. မြန်မာစာ၊ မြန်မာစကား</p> <p>5:20 pm</p> <p>7. Musical programme (The Radio Myanmar Modern Music Troupe)</p> <p>5:30 pm</p> <p>8. Song and dance of national races</p> <p>5:35 pm</p> <p>9. "လောကရုံအလှတရား" (ရဲမောင်၊ မေသဏ္ဍာဦး၊ သူထူးစံ၊ ပွင့်နီဒီမောင်၊ ချစ်စနိုးဦး၊ ရောဂုတနာ၊ မေကဗျာ)</p>	<p>5:50 pm</p> <p>10. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်၊ (၁၅)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီး ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များလေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (ကာလပေါ်တေးနှင့် ဓေတီဟောင်းတေး) (ဝါသနာရှင်(ပထမတန်း) အဆင့်)(အမျိုးသမီး)</p> <p>6:00 pm</p> <p>11. Evening news</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>12. Weather report</p> <p>6:35 pm</p> <p>13. အလှရှာမယ်၊ လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်</p> <p>7:05 pm</p> <p>14. (၂၄)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ အားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်မည့် မြန်မာအားကစားအဖွဲ့များ၏ ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်မှုများ (ရွက်လှ)</p> <p>7:15 pm</p> <p>15. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်သောရွှေနေပြည်" (အပိုင်း-၁၄)</p> <p>8:00 pm</p> <p>16. News</p> <p>17. International news</p> <p>18. Weather report</p> <p>19. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ပြီးလှည့်ပါချစ်သူရယ်" (အပိုင်း-၈)</p> <p>20. The next day's programme</p>
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Monday, 24 September
Tune in today

<p>8:30 am Brief news</p> <p>8:35 am Music: -Whatever it takes</p> <p>8:40 am Perspectives</p> <p>8:45 am Music: -Got the feeling</p> <p>8:50 am National news/Slogan</p> <p>9:00 am Music -Say a little prayer</p> <p>9:05 am International news</p> <p>9:10 am Music -Because of you</p> <p>1:30 pm News /Slogan</p> <p>1:40 pm Lunch time music -Circle in the sand -The sound of goodbye</p> <p>9:00 pm Spotlight on the stars Faith Hill</p> <p>9:10 pm Article</p> <p>9:20 pm Drug/Women Affairs</p> <p>9:35 pm Golden Land melody/Vocal gems -Pretty woman -Take my breath away</p> <p>9:45 pm News /Slogan</p> <p>10:00 pm PEL</p>
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Minister inspects locomotives, Setsan Warehouse



Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min inspects the purchased locomotives of M/S Rites Ltd of India at Sule Wharf.— RAILWAY

YANGON, 23 Sept — Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min inspected five locomotives that had been bought from M/S Rites Ltd of India after being unloaded from MV Magway at No 5 Sule Wharf, here, this morning.

Managing Director U Maung Maung Nyein of Myanmar Five Star Line, General Manager U Cho Thein Maung of Myanmar Port Authority and officials of Myanmar Railways briefed the minister on arrangements for unloading of the locomotives from the vessel.

After inspecting the locomotives, the minister instructed the officials to systematically use of the

locomotives and placed emphasis on maintenance of the locomotives. Myanmar Railways signed the agreement with India to purchase 20 YDM-4 locomotives and five of which were for the first time carried by MV Magway.

The already-arrived locomotives will be used on Yangon-Mandalay railroad section for ensuring smooth transportation of passengers and commodities. On arrival at Setsan Warehouse, the minister looked into construction of extended yard of Setsan Warehouse, concrete laying tasks of entrance road and car parking and gave instructions on timely completion of the construction tasks. Cargo trains will run Up and

Down on Mahlwakon-Myohaung cargo yards for speedy flow of goods. — MNA

STORM NEWS

(Issued at 11:00 hr MST on 23-9-2007)

According to the observations at (06:30)hr MST today, the low pressure area over West Central Bay and adjoining Northwest Bay has intensified into a depression, has crossed over the Orissa Coast near Puri (India).

Myanmar's communication sector making dramatic progress

INSIDE



Thanks to the measures the government has taken to ensure smooth communication and improvement of Information Technology, there has cemented fraternal relations, trade, mutual help and friendship between one national race and another. The government is working hard to help the nation catch up with international level communication systems necessary for emergence of a peaceful, modern and developed nation.

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KYAW SWA NGE