

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

With concept that ongoing protests harm community peace

Peace-loving people of Taungtha Township stage mass rally

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Sept—More than 5,700 people of Taungtha Township, Myingyan District, Mandalay Division, who favour stability of the State, prevalence of law and order, and community peace, at 1.45 pm yesterday held a mass rally with the concept that the ongoing demonstrations staged by some monks and NLD members are destroying the living conditions of the people.

Holding three State flags and placards that read “Don’t destroy peaceful conditions”, “Don’t destroy development”, “We cannot serve as slaves”, “No neo-colonialism”, “Non-disintegration of the Union—our cause”, “Non-disintegration of national solidarity—our cause”, “Perpetuation of sovereignty—our cause”, chanting slogans such as Our Three Main National Causes, and to approve the State Constitution, they marched along U Ar Lawka Street through Myingyan-Meiktila Road, to Myingyan-Kyaukpadaung Road, to Zagan Street, to the circular road, south of Sibinhaya Street through Station road, and then to Taungtha-Meiktila Road.

The rally was attended by over 5,700 people from six wards and 54 villages in Taungtha. They organized the ceremony after seeking permission from the authorities concerned in accordance with the law.

MNA



More than 5,700 people who favour stability of the State, prevalence of law and order, and community peace hold a mass rally in Taungtha Township, Myingyan District, Mandalay Division.—MNA

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Rights and wrongs of today’s political arena of Myanmar - II

The protesters were speeding up the movements gradually, taking advantage of the patience and endurance the government had exerted to ensure national reconsolidation. Applying the methods of the Burma Communist Party (BCP) and Gene Sharp, they launched a variety of campaigns to stage mass demonstrations.

PAGES 8+9

KYAW MIN LU (SHWEPYITHA)

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

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 29 September, 2007

Intensify momentum of rural development

Agriculture is the livelihood of rural people. Therefore, the government is taking all necessary measures for the development of the agriculture sector including water supply for agricultural and drinking purpose. In the meantime, it is building infrastructures for development of economic, education and health sectors.

The emergence of village-to-village roads, village-to-town roads and large and small bridges in different regions has contributed a lot to the development of agricultural and livestock breeding sectors of rural areas and to boosting production.

Many model villages have emerged in some regions that were equipped with gravel roads, affiliated high schools and rural health care centres and libraries and engaged in double and mixed cropping.

The government opened over 400 station hospitals, over 1,000 rural health care centres and maternal and child health care centres for development of health care services in rural regions.

Furthermore, more self-reliant libraries and community education charities have broadened the scope of knowledge of rural people. With the emergence of over 500,000 self-reliant libraries rural people have now been able to widen their horizon of knowledge.

The government with the participation of well-wishers and local people is making all-out efforts for the development of all sectors. Through these relentless efforts, the improvement of socio-economic life of rural people will surely be achieved.

နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရဌာနပိုင် မော်တော်ယာဉ်မသုံးစွဲရနေ့

လစဉ် လ၏ ဒုတိယပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) နှင့် နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) တို့သည် ရုံးလုပ်ငန်းအတွက် မဖြစ်မနေသွားလာရန် လိုအပ်သည့်ကိစ္စရပ်များမှအပ မော်တော်ယာဉ်များ မသုံးစွဲရနေ့ဖြစ်သည်။

၂၀၀၇-ခုနှစ် ဇက်တင်ဘာလ အတွက်

နောက်ဆုံးပတ် (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့)
(၃၀-၉-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့

၂၀၀၇-ခုနှစ် အောက်တိုဘာလ အတွက်

(၁၄-၁၀-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့
နှင့်
(၂၈-၁၀-၂၀၀၇) ရက်နေ့

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



Dr Kyaw Myint inspects library of University of Community Health.—HEALTH

Minister supervises health care services at hospitals

YANGON, 28 Sept — Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint together with Director-General of Medical Science Department Dr Than Myint, Deputy Director-General Dr Win Myint and officials concerned met with Acting Rector Dr Tin Min of University of Community Health, heads of departments and professors at the meeting hall of the university in Lanmadaw Township on 26 September.

During the meeting, Acting Rector Dr Tin Min briefed the minister

and party on the formation of the university, academic matters, maintenance of the buildings and Director-General Dr Than Myint on supplementary reports.

After giving instructions on nurturing of international level technicians from the university for the improvement of community health care services, the minister and party inspected lecture halls, formation of departments for different subjects, application of computers at the university and books on display at the library and fulfilled

the requirements.

Upon arrival at Thakayta Township 25-Bed People's Hospital, the minister and party looked into ward, laboratory, infectious disease prevention, delivery room, female ward, surgical room, dental ward and sanitation tasks at the hospital, and then met with officials of Yangon Division Health Department, the chairman of District Peace and Development Council, township health committee members, health staff and members of social organizations and attended to the needs.

At the meeting hall of Thingangyun Hospital, the minister urged service personnel to strive for the hospital to become the one on which the people can rely in carrying out community health care services, warmly welcome the patients who are going to receive medical treatment at the hospital as the directives given, perform health care services for the public, fulfill health care services of the public effectively and treat the patients kindly and cure them with sympathy.

MNA

Wellwishers donate cash to athletes with intellectual disabilities

YANGON, 26 Sept — Wellwishers donated cash to athletes with intellectual disabilities who will participate in Special Olympic World Games in Shanghai, China, from 28 to 12 October.

At the cash donation ceremony held at Aung San Stadium here today, Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Thuang Htaik delivered an address and Leader of the group of the athletes Col Myo Myint (Retd) extended greetings.

Director-General U Thuang Htaik, Col Myo Myint (Retd) and responsible officials accepted over K 15.6 million, US \$ 1,863 and FEC 613 donated by 30 wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.—MNA

One shot dead, house and cowshed destroyed

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Sept — KNU insurgents, resorting to various means, are committing destructive acts to disrupt stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity and prevalence of law and order, kill the people and rob their property.

Fifty-eight-year-old U Tin Nyunt, son of U Tin Maung of Thuhtaykyun Village in Kyaukkyi Township of Bago Division, was shot dead by two KNU insurgents and his house and cowshed were burnt down and destroyed on 25 September.

In connection with the incident, local military columns were in hot pursuit of the KNU insurgents.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

China, Switzerland vow to boost ties

UNITED NATIONS, 28 Sept — Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi said here on Tuesday that China stands ready to push relations with Switzerland to a new high by boosting political mutual trust, expanding cooperation, and strengthening consultation and collaboration in multilateral fields.

Switzerland's recognition earlier this year of China's status as a full

market economy has created good conditions for stronger bilateral economic and trade ties, Yang said at a meeting with Micheline Calmy-Rey, president of the Swiss Confederation.

Calmy-Rey, who also serves as the Foreign Minister, said her country is determined to enhance dialogue with China and step up economic and trade cooperation and commu-

nication and coordination in international affairs.

The two also discussed other topics such as the Iranian nuclear issue.

At the start of their meeting, which was held on the sidelines of the 62nd session of the United Nations General Assembly, the two signed a memorandum on strengthening bilateral dialogue and cooperation.

MNA/Xinhua



A transparent frog whose organs can be seen through its skins is seen at a laboratory of Hiroshima University's Institute for Amphibian Biology in Hiroshima, western Japan, in this photograph released by the institute on 25 Sept, 2007. —XINHUA

Over 500 fish die of poisoning in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 Sept—More than 500 fish of various species, including sharks placed in two large and five small tanks at Underwater World Langkawi (UWL) in Malaysia, have died from poisoning, UWL deputy general manager said in Langkawi on Tuesday. The dead fish were found floating in the tanks by a worker on Monday, Mohd Hafizuddin Abdullah said.

"It is estimated that between 500 and 600 fish from 30 to 50 of the world's best species died," the national news agency *Bernama* quoted Hafizuddin as saying.

The dead fish include sharks, stingrays, and groupers aged 10 to 12

years old. UWL has 100 tanks containing 10 to 200 fish of various sizes for public display, Hafizuddin said.—MNA/Xinhua

WASHINGTON, 27 Sept—US Defence Secretary Robert Gates on Wednesday asked Congress to approve nearly 190 billion US dollars more in spending for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. In prepared testimony to a Senate committee, Gates

Pentagon seeks \$190b more for Iraq, Afghanistan

said the Bush Administration sought the money for more training and equipment for the US military, including new armored vehicles that give extra protection to troops against bomb blasts. The funds were for the 2008 fiscal year beginning 1

October. More money was also needed to train and equip Iraqi security forces as well as to improve US facilities in the region and "consolidate our bases in Iraq", Gates said. *Reuters* obtained a copy of his remarks in advance of his testimony on Wednesday.

MNA/Reuters

7.75 kilogrammes (17.1 pounds). Nadia was delivered by caesarean section in the local maternity hospital in the Altai Region on 17 September, joining eight sisters and three brothers, a local reporter said. "We were all simply in shock," said Nadia's mother, Tatyana Barabanova, 43. "What did the father say? He couldn't say a thing — he just stood there blinking." "I ate everything, we don't have the money for special foods so I just ate potatoes, noodles and tomatoes," she told the reporter, adding that all her previous babies had weighed more than five kilogrammes.

The *Guinness World Records* lists a 10.2 kilogrammes baby boy born in Italy in 1955, and a 10.8 kilogrammes baby boy who was born in the United States in 1879 but died 11 hours later.

MNA/Reuters

Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan

TORONTO, 27 Sept— A Canadian soldier was killed and four were wounded during a military operation in southern Afghanistan, the Canadian military said.

The casualties occurred on Monday afternoon during a joint operation with Afghan forces aimed at improving security and creating a new police substation in the northern part of the Panjwayi District, west of Kandahar.

Canada has some 2,600 soldiers based in the Kandahar region in an operation that has become increasingly unpopular at home. Seventy-one Canadian soldiers have been killed since the operation began.

Opposition parties have been calling on the minority Conservative government to commit to pull Canadian troops out of Afghanistan by February 2009.

MNA/Reuters



A model wears a creation as part of Roberto Cavalli Spring/Summer 2008 women's collection during the Milan Fashion Week in Milan on 26 Sept, 2007.—XINHUA



Baby girl Nadia, who weighed 7.75 kg (17.1 lbs) after birth, lies on a scale in the Siberian city of Barnaul on 26 Sept, 2007. One Siberian mother has done more than her fair share to heal Russia's dire population decline. Tatyana Barabanova shocked her husband by giving birth to a 7.75 kg (17.1 lbs) baby girl this month, her 12th child. — INTERNET

Russian woman's 12th baby weighs in at 7.75 kilogrammes

BAARBAUL, (Russia), 27 Sept—A Siberian woman who gave birth to her 12th child — doing more than her fair share to stem Russia's population decline — was stunned to find that little Nadia

weighed in at a massive

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Health workers distribute information about the deadly Ebola haemorrhagic fever to villagers at Kakenge, on the road from Kananga to Mweka, on 27 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

UK students ‘least hard-working in Europe’

LONDON, 27 Sept—Research showing British students are the least hard-working in Europe rang “alarm bells” for the country’s higher education policy, a leading think-tank warned on Tuesday. The workload and standard of degree awarded in Britain varied significantly between

universities and the courses offered, the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI) study revealed. Despite British students paying some of the highest fees in the world, the study found European students studied harder. The report, which included both the teaching time and private student element of a

student’s degree, found that those at British universities studied for, on average, only 20 hours a week—the lowest in Europe. The institute’s director and the report’s co-author, Bahram Bekhradnia, said the study’s findings rang “alarm bells for the future”.

“It raises some challenging questions for those who run universities,” Bekhradnia said. It raises dangers (about) ... the reputation of our universities and particularly about our share of overseas students. “If it becomes universally perceived that our students do not get very much for their money in this country, then that could start to affect our universities — and affect our ability to attract overseas students.”

The study came after the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) found that Britain’s world ranking as one of the highest producers of university graduates had tumbled as other countries invest more heavily in education.

MNA/Reuters

Cuba slams Bush for acting like world’s policeman

UNITED NATIONS, 27 Sept—Cuban Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque on Wednesday accused US President George W Bush of acting like the world’s policeman, saying that he had no right to judge any other country.

In a speech at the general debate of the UN General Assembly, Perez

Roque said: “With a foul language and an arrogant tone, President Bush insulted and threatened some ten countries; he gave orders, in a firm and authoritarian fashion.”

“With such bossiness never ever seen in this hall, he dished out terms and judgments on a score of countries,” he said, referring to Bush’s speech

at the UN General Assembly on Tuesday.

“It was an embarrassing show,” Perez Roque said. “The delirium tremens of the world’s policeman, sprinkled with the mediocrity and the cynicism of those who threaten to launch wars in which they know their life is not at stake.”

MNA/Xinhua



Iran’s President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (L) is greeted by Bolivia’s President Evo Morales at El Alto airport in La Paz on 27 Sept, 2007. Ahmadinejad is visiting Bolivia to tighten diplomatic ties and sign energy and industrial aid agreements.—INTERNET

US eyes weapons sales worth up to \$2.3b to Iraq

WASHINGTON, 27 Sept—The Pentagon on Wednesday told Congress it was ready to sell Iraq up to 2.3 billion US dollars worth of weapons to help the Iraqi Army expand and take over missions now carried out by US and allied forces.

The Defence Security Cooperation Agency, which oversees foreign military sales, said the sale would include vehicles, small arms ammunition, explosives and communications equipment, as well as upgrades to 32 additional UH-1 helicopters built by Textron Inc unit Bell Helicopter.

The agency did not list any contractors but said there were no offset agreements mandating investment in Iraq in connection with the sale.

It said the sale would allow the Iraqi Army to expand its force structure by 25 battalions and a bri-

gade headquarters. “This expansion will enable Iraq to equip new forces to assume the missions currently accomplished by US and coalition forces and to sustain themselves in their efforts to bring

stability to the country,” DSCA said in a statement.

Once Congress is notified of a weapons sale, lawmakers have 30 days to block the deal, although such action is rare.

MNA/Reuters



Egyptian couples arrive at Cairo stadium for a collective wedding organised by Karme el-Islam association, late 5 Sept, 2007. Around 200 Egyptian couples celebrated their marriage together under the aegis of an Islamic association.—INTERNET

Bird flu detected in N-W Bangladesh

DHAKA, 28 Sept — Some 6,000 chickens were culled at Sahapur village in Sadar sub-district in Bangladesh’s northwestern Bogra District, 170 kilometres of capital on Dhaka on Tuesday night following the detection of avian influenza virus in a poultry farm.

The private news agency UNB on Wednesday reported that Nakul Saha, owner of the poultry farm, took several dead chickens for laboratory test on suspicion that they might have died of bird flu.

The laboratory test confirmed that the chickens died of avian influenza.

The avian influenza virus was first detected in a poultry farm in Savar, 25 kilometres west of the Dhaka in March this year. Laboratory test results showed the existence of influenza virus of H5N1 variety. Tens of thousands of poultry birds were culled.

MNA/Xinhua

ECONOMIC NEWS

French firm to invest \$4b in Vietnam's electricity plant

HANOI, 27 Sept— A French electricity firm, the Electricite de France (EDF), has planned to invest some four billion US dollars in building a coal-fired electricity plant with total capacity of 3,600 megawatt in Vietnam, local newspaper Pioneer reported Tuesday.

The construction has been licensed by the Vietnamese Government, the paper quoted Director

of the EDF Vietnam Yves Desbazille as saying.

EDF has recently surveyed the Song Hau Industrial Park in southern Hau Giang Province to find a suitable location for the future plant.

Vietnam's electricity demand is estimated to annually grow 10-15 per

cent in the 2007-2010 period, so the country needs 20 billion dollars from now to 2010 to implement electricity production, transmission and distribution projects, according to the country's biggest power producer and sole distributor EVN.

MNA/Xinhua



Christie's employee Linda Pyke, is reflected in a mirror as she models a necklace, made of pearls belonging to Marie Antoinette, at Christie's Auction House in London on 27 Sept, 2007. — INTERNET

People look at parts of the Concorde jet on display in Toulouse, southwestern France, on 27 Sept, 2007.

Hundreds of spare parts from the now-defunct Concorde supersonic jet, including its 1.5-ton landing gear, are going on auction in France.

INTERNET



Cambodia plans to form regional rice exporters association

PHNOM PENH, 27 Sept— Cambodia has hosted a ministerial-level meeting of the Ayeyawady Chao Phraya Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) in an attempt to strengthen agricultural relations and cooperation with neighbours through the formation of an association of rice exporting countries, local media reported Wednesday.

The meeting, presided over by Cambodian Commerce Minister Cham Prasidh, was held on 24 September at the Angkor Palace Hotel in Siem Reap Province with the participation of delegates from Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, the Koh Santepheap newspaper said.

Speaking at the meeting, Cham Prasidh said that he had shared discussions with foreign

officials about the formation of an association of rice exporting countries, it said.

"Through the previous meetings, we have agreed on a concept paper which is the first draft to be put

forward to senior officials from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam to make further discussion and approved during the five countries' summit to be held in October," Cham Prasidh

was quoted as saying.

"The cooperation will push the member countries to (help) farmers increase output and seek markets for them," he added.

MNA/Xinhua



A character from the Microsoft Xbox video-game, Halo 3, stands watch over a line of people waiting to be some of the first to purchase their copy, at a electronics store in Bellevue Washington, on 25 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

Laos' exports increase in nine months

HANOI, 27 Sept— Laos is estimated to make export earnings of 6.2 trillion kip (648.7 million US dollars) in the first nine months of this year, a year-on-year rise of 4.4 per cent, Lao newspaper Vientiane Times reported Tuesday.

Copper exports are set to increase to 293.6 million dollars between January and September from 288.2 million dollars in the same period last year. The respective figures for gold exports are 77.9 million dollars and 69.5 million dollars, according to a report of the Lao Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

Other exports with bigger revenues in the nine-month period include garment and farm products. Meanwhile, timber and electricity saw declines in export values.

Laos is estimated to spend 5.9 trillion kip (621.7 million dollars) importing goods, including oil, vehicles, spare parts, food, clothes, construction equipment, and farming machinery, in the nine months of this year, down 26 per cent.

Border trade between Laos and its neighbors is estimated to surge by 32.6 per cent to 36.4 billion kip (3.8 million dollars), 52 per cent of which are Laos' imports. — MNA/Xinhua

China unveils 11 measures to boost oil-bearing crop production

BEIJING, 27 Sept— China has announced 11 measures to arouse farmers' enthusiasm for oil-bearing crop production, the Ministry of Agriculture said here on Sunday.

The measures will be implemented to expand the acreage for oil-bearing crops, raise the unit output and improve product variety.

According to the new policy, China will allocate additional 1.3 billion yuan to subsidize popularization of fine strains of oil-bearing crops, of which 300 million yuan will go to soybean production.

Meanwhile, China will increase investment in building state oil-bearing crop production bases, establishing an insurance system for oil crop planting, and promoting industrialization of oil processing.

The country will also provide more subsidies for construction of soybean research centre and popularization of new strains.

MNA/Xinhua

Egypt says US criticism over freedoms is interference

CAIRO, 27 Sept— Egypt dismissed on Wednesday rare US public criticism of what the White House called setbacks on freedom of the Press and civil society in Egypt as unwelcome meddling in its internal affairs.

“The statement issued by the White House spokesperson over Press freedom and civil society is interference in our domestic affairs that is unacceptable to Egypt,” an Egyptian Foreign Ministry statement said.

A White House

spokeswoman said on Monday that recent steps by Egyptian authorities “appear to contradict the Egyptian Government’s stated commitment to expand democratic rights”.

Egypt, whose government is a key ally of Washington in the Middle East, said the US remarks reflected a “lack of knowledge of the Egyptian legal and political reality”.

Over the past month, Egypt has closed a human rights group that aided torture victims and courts

sentenced seven journalists to jail over their work, including four convicted of defaming President Hosni Mubarak and his politician son Gamal.

Analysts say waning US public pressure on Egypt had given the state a freer hand over the past year to act against critics in the run-up to an eventual transition of power from Mubarak, who at 79 has been in power for a quarter century.

MNA/Reuters



A photo provided by the City of Chicago shows the city’s Office of Emergency Management and Communications. On 27 Sept, 2007, the city and IBM Corp announced the initial phase of what officials say could be the most advanced video security network in any US city. The announcement of the new system, which will supercharge its video surveillance system with automatic anomaly detection, comes as the city is vying to bring the 2016 games to town.— INTERNET

WHO reports 2,100 cholera cases in Iraq

GENEVA, 27 Sept— More than 2,100 people in Iraq have cholera which is spreading across the country, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday.

Although the number of laboratory-confirmed cholera cases has risen from 1,500 last Friday, the known death toll remains at 11, according to the United Nations health agency.

“The case fatality rate is 0.52 per cent and has remained low throughout the outbreak, although it (cholera) continues to spread across Iraq and dissemination to as yet unaffected areas remains highly possible,” the WHO said in its latest update.

In all, more than 30,000 people have fallen ill with acute watery diarrhoea in the past month, mainly in the northern provinces, according to figures from the Iraqi authorities. Of these, 2,116 people have tested positive for cholera.

Claire-Lise Chagnat, the WHO’s global cholera coordinator, told Reuters: “There are very few deaths and we don’t know why.”— MNA/Reuters



Models present Russian aircraft manufacturer Sukhoi’s Superjet 100 in the Far Eastern city Komsomolsk-on-Amur on 26 Sept, 2007— XINHUA

Ahmadinejad lauded in Iran for “Lion’s Den” visit

TEHERAN, 27 Sept— President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad may have

faced ridicule in the United States by suggesting there were no homosexuals in Iran, but he won praise at home on Wednesday for taking his country’s case to “the Lion’s Den”.

Generally, politicians and media in the Islamic Republic — even some who have previously criticized the President — described Ahmadinejad’s visit to New York as a triumph and denounced the university president who called him “a petty and cruel dictator”.

But one pro-reform newspaper said that, although the President told his US audience he respected academics, that was not always how

it seemed at home.

Ahmadinejad, who often rails against the West, travelled to the United States at a time of escalating tension between the two foes over Teheran’s nuclear ambitions and the war in Iraq.

MNA/Reuters

Magnitude 6.9 quake strikes Papua New Guinea

SINGAPORE, 27 Sept — A magnitude 6.9 earthquake struck under the sea in the remote New Ireland region of Papua New Guinea on Wednesday, the US Geological Survey said on its website.

USGS said the quake’s epicentre was 154 kilometres (96 miles) east-southeast of Rabaul, New Britain, and 280 kilometres west-northwest of Arawa, Bougainville, Papua New Guinea.

The quake’s depth was 10 kilometres (six miles).

The Hawaii-based Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre said a destructive Pacific-wide tsunami was not expected.

MNA/Reuters

US soldier killed in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 28 Sept— A US soldier has been killed by small arms fire in the Iraqi capital, the US military said on Wednesday.

The soldier was killed on Tuesday during combat operations in eastern Baghdad, the military said in a statement.

Earlier, the military said that another soldier was killed on Tuesday when a roadside bomb blew up near his vehicle in Diyala Province, northeast of Baghdad.

MNA/Xinhua



French soldiers with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force patrol in the streets of Kabul. Four Red Cross staff, two of them foreigners, were kidnapped near the Afghan capital while two Danish soldiers were killed in an attack by Taliban insurgents, officials said on Thursday.—INTERNET



People stage a mass rally in Taungtha Township, Mandalay Division.
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IRD conducts work efficiency course

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Sept — A work efficiency course No 32 for Township Internal Revenue Department Officers under Internal Revenue Department of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue concluded at the ministry, here, this morning.

Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun delivered an address on the occasion. He said the trainees had to perform duty in conformity with the directives and procedures. The trainees were to disseminate knowledge on revenue to the people and to carry out the tasks systematically.

The minister awarded prizes to the outstanding trainees and presented conclusion certificates to the trainees.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Than Nyein, the director-general of IRD and others.

A total of 65 trainees attended the four-week course.—MNA

Shwe Naing Ngan Journal in circulation

YANGON, 28 Sept — The volume-6, No 9 of Shwe Naing Ngan Journal has appeared today. The journal embraces every aspect of follow-up news and articles on information technology, production of bio-diesel in Myanmar and diseases.

In addition, it covers development throughout the nation, local and foreign news and photos.

The journal can be available at the book shops in every township and manuscripts can be sent to the Chief Editor, No 228, Printing and Publishing Enterprise on

Theinbyu street in Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Tel: 382070.
MNA

Two innocent people lose feet in mine blasts

YANGON, 28 Sept—U Win Naing of Thabye Nyunt village in Thandaung Township, Kayin State, while searching fruit and tubers, lost his left foot in the blast of a mine planted by insurgents at the forest, north-east of the village, at about 11.45 am on 23 September.

At about 11.30 am on 26 September, U Hla Thaug of Kyaukkipauk village lost his left foot when he trod on a mine planted by insurgents in the forest, east of Kyaukkipauk village, Htantabin Township, Bago Division. At the time, he was in search of fruit and tubers in the forest.

They are now receiving treatment at Toungoo Township People's Hospital.

MNA

Donations for International Day of Older Persons

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Sept — A ceremony to donate cash and medicines to mark International Day of Older Persons for 2007 was held at Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana Home for the Aged, with an address by Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Kyaw Myint.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General U Sit Myaing of Social Welfare Department, Director-General U Than Oo of Relief and Resettlement Department, members of Nay Pyi Taw Pynmana District Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association, nurses, older persons of the Home and

departmental officials.

The deputy minister presented cash donations for the Home through chairman U Kyawt Shin. Next, Director-General U Sit Myaing donated eight kinds of medicines for the Home. Afterwards, one of aged persons spoke words of thanks. — MNA

Buddha Tooth Relic Pujaniya festival concludes in Paungde

YANGON, 27 Sept — A 107th Buddha Tooth Relic Pujaniya festival of Paungde in Bago Division (West) was held at the compound of Thakya Muni Moegaung Pagoda on 23 September.

On 24 September, the Buddha tooth relic was conveyed around the wards in Paungde the

people to pay homage to it.

The conveyance of the Buddha tooth relic concluded yesterday.

Eye specialists and doctors provided free health care for the visitors to the festival. Various kind of food were also served.

MNA

Minister inspects Textile Mill No 1, fulfils requirements

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Sept — Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Committee Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaug inspected Mandalay Textile Mill No 1 in Pyigyidagun Township yesterday.

At the mill, director U Aik Chit conducted the minister around the production process of textile and the latter gave instructions on the requirements of the task. Upon arrival at Sweet Home Industry Co Ltd in Mandalay Industrial Zone No 2, the minister oversaw production of spring mattresses.

Next, the minister inspected the furniture factory and gave instructions on boosting production. On arrival at Umbrella Factory (Mandalay) of Myanmar General and Maintenance Industries, the minister met with the students of Mandalay University of Medicine who had won stipends and inspected the chosen place for extended building of the factory.

After inspecting production process of the umbrellas, the minister gave instructions on boosting production of the umbrellas and arrangements to be made for taking fire preventive measures.

MNA

Train service schedules changed

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Sept — Myanmar Railways has already arranged to change schedules of some railway services— Yangon-Mandalay route, Kyimyindine-Tharawaw route and Yangon-Dawei route— for more convenience of the train passengers. The schedules of some train services to be changed starting from 30 September are as follow:

Yangon-Mandalay

3 up-train	5 up-train	Station	6 down-train	4 down-train
3.30	3.00	Yangon	15.10	17.00
10.14	9.18	Toungoo	8.18	9.43
10.24	9.28	Toungoo	8.08	9.33
19.30	18.10	Mandalay	0.00	1.00

Kyimyindine-Tharawaw

69 up-train	Station	70 down-train
11.00	Kyimyindine	5.00
15.35	Letpatdan	23.30
15.45	Letpatdan	22.46
18.00	Tharawaw	21.00

Yangon-Dawei

175 up-train	Station	176 down-train
0.03	Yangon	19.15
9.40	Mawlamyine	10.00
9.55	Mawlamyine	9.45
16.30	Ye	4.00

Rights and wrongs of today's political arena of Myanmar - II

Kyaw Min Lu (Shwepyitha)

I will now discuss the schemes to destroy national peace and stability, the rule of law and developments.

The National Convention, the first of the seven-step Road Map, has concluded successfully. There are now ideal opportunities to build a discipline-flourishing democratic nation. The nation is witnessing greater progress and success. It is a pleasure and pride for all Myanmar people. Our friendly nations are rejoicing at our developments and successes. However, it is unbelievable that there are organizations trying to stop and destroy our developments and success with negative views.

Since the resumption of the National Convention after the adoption of the seven-step Road Map in 2003, those organizations have been attempting to stop and jeopardize the Road Map. They were giving priority to stopping or delaying the National Convention as its successful completion and adoption of fundamental principles and detailed basic principles will lead to implementing the remaining steps with might and main. The anti-government groups formed an alliance to lay down the following three strategies:

- (a) To oppose and undermine the National Convention and then to hinder the process of drafting and approving the constitution if the first attempt failed
- (b) To apply various means for the eruption of the 1988-like civil commotion
- (c) To commit destructive acts including terrorism through internal and external collusion

However, as ideologies and working plans

At the same time, NLD spokesmen said that NLD would not stay as an idle by-stander if there were public demands. What they meant was to move one step further by taking advantage of government's patience, tolerance and solving problems through peaceful means. Beginning 24 September NLD second-class leaders and representatives-elect have been taking part openly in the protests. We can say that NLD that was acting from behind the scene suddenly jumped onto the stage. This act shows that NLD is still clinging to its policy of defiance, confrontation and utter devastation. The party has raised its ugly head again.

vary among the anti-government groups, they decided each group to choose its own suitable tactics and to join forces when situation is ripe. In reality, those groups have accepted the BCP's repeated directive of integrating forces for common goals and separating forces for different goals. Their ultimate goal is to halt the process of implementing the seven-step Road Map, to topple the government and to grab power through shortcut.

In accord with the strategy, other groups are launching anti-government activities with NLD as the core. As the NLD is an aboveground organization, its duty was to demand dialogue, the release of Daw Suu Kyi and the realization of 1990 election results while launching anti-government activities from behind the scene. NLD cooperated with them as it was the only way for a party that was sidelined in the political process after leaving the National Convention under Daw Suu Kyi's order, to try itself back on track. NLD members and youth members were let to participate in the activities individually.

In this way, those groups realize their strategy. In accord with the strategy, other groups will do and say what NLD dares not. NLD members will join hands with others in activities while NLD (Central) is issuing one announcement after another to support the activities. Hence, NLD is demanding international bodies and foreign governments and embassies to apply pressure and impose sanctions on Myanmar. The NLD (Central) on 23 February this year issued an announcement saying that the people had the right to freely express their food, clothing and shelter hardships. Former NLDs and youth members were taking part in the plots of so-called '88' generation students and anti-government groups to stage a mass protest. On 20 August, it released another announcement saying that public situation was very likely to explode resulting from economic hardships; the government would be held accountable for national instability in their attempt to intensify the disturbances. It then issued a new announcement on 5 September saying that the public activity of assembling more than five people, walking in procession, giving political talks and shouting slogans does not violate the Order No 2/88. It was the open agitation to break the existing laws to increase the degree of disturbances and protests. After the announcement came out, township level NLDs have been instigating members of the Sangha to cause unrest, applying pressure on monks who wish to live in peace and airing rumours and false news reports through

some foreign radio stations in collusion with them.

At the same time, NLD spokesmen said that NLD would not stay as an idle by-stander if there were public demands. What they meant was to move one step further by taking advantage of government's patience, tolerance and solving problems through peaceful means. Beginning 24 September NLD second-class leaders and representatives-elect have been taking part openly in the protests. We can say that NLD that was acting from behind the scene suddenly jumped onto the stage. This act shows that NLD is still clinging to its policy of defiance, confrontation and utter devastation. The party has lifted its ugly head again. We will have to wait and see how the conspiracy will end.

The ones that follow NLD are the so-called '88' generation students. Most of them are the persons who launched political activities with leftist ideology. They are the ones who climbed onto the political stage when the government released most of their leaders from imprisonment. They have been opposing the government in accord with Gene Sharp's method of non-violence.

The protesters were speeding up the movements, taking advantage of the patience and endurance the government had exerted to ensure national reconsolidation. Applying the methods of the Burma Communist Party (BCP) and Gene Sharp, they launched a variety of campaigns to stage mass demonstrations. In this regard, they combined BCP's Demo-2006 campaign, 2007 opinions (Activist Front-AF) and Underground (UG). So, the "88" generation student group wrote to the governments of many countries and international organizations to put pressure on and take action against Myanmar, and launched various movements in the name of economic and social affairs to organize the people to incite protests. Then, they sent Ne Tin Myint and members abroad to accelerate the subversive acts in the nation. They are pursuing their strategy to disrupt the seven-step Road Map. We people are to be aware of that. They are claiming themselves to be students, but they are at the age of more than 40. They are no longer students, nor do they have any political experiences, except the experience of using abusive language to the government for three or four months in the 1988 unrest. However, they have a lot of experiences of provoking demonstrations and committing destructive acts.

(See page 9)

As ideologies and working plans vary among the anti-government groups, they decided each group to choose its own suitable tactics and to join forces when situation is ripe. In reality, those groups have accepted the BCP's repeated directive of integrating forces for common goals and separating forces for different goals. Their ultimate goal is to halt the process of implementing the seven-step Road Map, to topple the government and to grab power through short cut.

Rights and wrongs of today's ...

(from page 8)

They are hand in glove with NLD, but they have a separate goal. Now, they have been put onto the political stage by the NLD, internal and external anti-government groups and foreign media. They consider themselves to be second line leaders, in other words, they are leaders after Daw Suu Kyi. They do not think highly of ex-military officer leaders of the NLD and veteran politicians. They have to join hands with them temporarily, according to the circumstances. They think that the leadership role will soon be in their hands. So, they are claiming that NLD Central Executive Committee is to be formed with NLD young members. Their words evoked my memories that in 1967-68, young members of Red Flag were recruited to form Politburo of the BCP Headquarters, and an intra-party coup was staged and some including Goshel, Yebaw Htay and Bo Yan Aung were dismissed, removed and then killed.

The "88" generation student group has launched its movements since October 2006 with reference to the anniversary of the NLD. Those who were detained temporarily at that time were released after a National Convention session. It was said that during the period of the detention, they were briefed by the officials concerned on the National Convention and the seven-step Road Map. However, after being released, the so-called students relapsed into previous activities.

All expatriate groups and a certain foreign country were contributing funds and manpower to the "88" generation student group's plot to disrupt the progress of the National Convention and the seven-step Road Map. In April 2006, AAPP sent 25 million kyats to Min Ko Naing through the embassy of a western country. In August the same year, an NGO of a western country sent 30,000 US dollars to Htay Kywe, and former Ba-Ka-Tha members in the US, and Khin Ohnmar of the NLD, 2.5 million kyats. There have been a lot of profound evidences that during 2006, the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) formed by the US house of representatives provided more than 2.9 million US dollars under the headings of flourishing of democracy in Myanmar. It was stated that of the funds provided, 800,000 US dollars went to internal groups of democracy activists. They were some compelling evidences

Members of the "88" generation student group are jobless with no income, but due to the cash assistance, they have their cars, and are seen doing activities with mobile phones and cameras in the ceremonies. Surely, their mobile phones are not provided by the government. Every member can use a mobile phone worth more than 2 million kyats. I wonder how they got such large amount of money to buy mobile phones? It is said that they sometimes make an around-the-nation trip.

that were exposed easily. I am sure the funds of the intelligence agencies like CIA, and the US State Department are still being provided for the "88" generation student group through NGOs.

Members of the "88" generation student group are jobless with no income, but due to the cash assistance, they have their cars, and are seen doing activities with mobile phones and cameras in the ceremonies. Surely, their mobile phones are not provided by the government. Every member can use a mobile phone worth more than 2 million kyats. I wonder how they got such large amount of money to buy mobile phones? It is said that they sometimes make an around-the-nation trip. They used these funds to organize students and workers in the industrial zones with the help of bogus students and workers. In order to gather a large number of public members in their movements, they hired men to cheer and clap and present purified drinking water bottles to the protesters. That was intended to deceive ignorant persons and youths without a wide view about their plans so that they come to think that their activities win the public support. It was like the deception of some MPs of the parliament period that they hired men to buy votes for them.

In addition to the aboveground activities with the use of foreign assistance, the "88" generation student group carried out activities similar to those in 1988 and 1989 by Min Ko Naing and Moe Thee Zun. In 1988 when the Tatmadaw took over power, they laid down three tactics — to rise against the government through semi-UG activities to be carried out by the Ba-Ka-Tha formed with Min Ko Naing, Ko Ko Gyi and Moe Thee Zun, to form legal political parties, and to follow armed struggle line.

That was why in order to pick up armed struggle line, Tun Aung Kyaw and Naing Aung formed ABSDF at the border; Moe Thee Zun, New Society for Democracy Party as an aboveground party; and Min Ko Naing, Ba-Ka-Tha. Their operations had already been featured in the articles of the dailies.

But thanks to Tatmadaw's military operations, NSDP broke up, Moe Thee Zun went into exile and Min Ko Naing, Ko Ko Gyi and Htay Kywe faced legal action resulting in the break-up of the '88' group. Moe Thee Zun, who is the cleverest, acted as chairman of ABSDF while at the border. Then, he, thinking that begging for foreign assistance was better than picking up the armed struggle line, went to America where he is now living in luxury on the pretext of pursuing further studies. He himself will know best who are rendering assistance to him. Even then, he sometimes shout that the Myanmar people are to rely on themselves through foreign broadcasting stations. Let's talk about the '88' group inside the country.

When being released from prison in late 2004, Min Ko Naing, Ko Ko Gyi and Htay Kywe, instead of thanking the State, attempted to instigate incidents similar to those of 1988-89. Taking advantage of the government's patience and forgiveness, they started above- and underground operations and incited unrest by forming a mass movement committee in collusion with exiled terrorists and NCGUB formed with insurgent remnants and ABSDF. What's more, the local '88' group daringly assigned duties to Ne Tin Myint to go abroad last May through Measok for explosives training courses to help intensify their destructive acts. Despite Min Ko Naing's denial of the matter, Nay Tin Myint was on the list of nine members of the mass movement committee when NLD (LA) issued a special declaration on 24 September. Their story was self-revealing.

In accord with the strategy, other groups are launching anti-government activities with NLD as the core. As the NLD is an aboveground organization, its duty was to demand dialogue, the release of Daw Suu Kyi and the realization of 1990 election results while launching anti-government activities from behind the scene. NLD cooperated with them as it was the only way for a party that was sidelined in the political process after leaving the National Convention under Daw Suu Kyi's order, to try itself back on track. NLD members and youth members were let to participate in the activities individually.

Min Ko Naing and group speeded up their attempt to disrupt the National Convention although they knew it was to be resumed in July this year. The '88' group issued a declaration regarding the State constitution in June and another declaration on the anniversary of four 8's. The points included in the declarations are aimed at disrupting the proceedings of the National Convention and causing misunderstanding with the people. In sync with the declarations of the so-called '88' group, external destructive elements sent some terrorists to the nation via the border region. I don't want to mention about it in detail as it had been featured in the dailies.

Their motive is very clear. They would try to disrupt the National Convention through terrorist acts to be committed in the nation. They would blow up the venue of the National Convention causing the deaths of the delegates. But their attempts were abortive thanks to the security forces in cooperation with the people. As they failed their first attempt, Min Ko Naing and group tried again in early August to incite disturbances. They employed all possible means such as terrorist acts and ploys to disrupt the National Convention and cause instability of the State. Eventually, authorities concerned had to call in the '88' group members for interrogation. Among them, Htay Kywe is still at large and inciting disturbances in the mass of monks through foreign media.

At a time when the State is building infrastructures for marching towards a democracy and the NC delegates from all backgrounds have laid down basic principles and detailed basic principles for the emergence of an enduring constitution, the destructive elements who want to grab the State power through short-cut are sticking to the terrorist acts and confrontational course with the government. It is clear which side we have to favour and support. We will have to stand by those striving their utmost for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy. Looking back to the history, we have to prevent those who want to push back the nation into the situation of 1988. But there is one point to be considered for us. The internal ax-handles cannot survive without assistance of their foreign masters. Well, I'll continue the conspiracy of the foreign masters later.

Translation: TMT+MS+ST
Myanma Alin: 28-9-2007

Indonesia may allow Shell, Petronas in subsidized fuel business

JAKARTA, 28 Sept — Indonesia's downstream oil and gas regulator BPH Migas may allow oil giant Royal Dutch Shell and Malaysia's Petronas to join state-owned oil and gas firm Pertamina in selling subsidized fuels, the local press said on Wednesday.

The designation of Shell and Petronas as subsidized fuel distributors, despite their lack of storage facilities, would benefit consumers as the increased competition would force sole distributor Pertamina to provide better services and reduce prices, a BPH Migas official was quoted by English daily *The Jakarta Post* as saying.

"New players could establish joint storage facilities, or if Pertamina agreed, they could share Pertamina facilities to overcome their lack of space," said BPH Migas representative Adhi Subagio Subono.

Pertamina still holds the exclusive right to distribute subsidized fuels, despite the partial liberalization of the country's retail fuel market in 2005.

The government has said that the exclusive right continued to be awarded to Pertamina as no other operators had been able to meet the requirements, such as having sufficient distribution networks and storage facilities.

As a result, the newcomers, including Shell and Petronas, have only been able to sell non-

subsidized high-octane gasoline in Indonesia.

Indonesia, with a population of some 220 million people, represents an attractive market for gas retailers as motor vehicles account for almost half of national fuel consumption, which currently stands at some 60 million kilolitres per year.

MNA/Xinhua

S Korea to build large flying ship by 2012

SEOUL, 28 Sept — South Korea plans to build a large, commercially viable flying ship that can greatly boost the speed of maritime transportation, the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries said on Thursday.

The "wing-in-ground" (WIG) craft that is expected to be built by 2012 is being designed to carry 100 tons of cargo with a cruising speed of 250-300 kilometres per hour, South Korea's *Yonhap* news agency reported.

The plane's speed is slower than passenger jets but its payload is equivalent to that of a large

Boeing 747 jumbo jet, it said.

The 300-ton craft will be 77 metres long and 65 metres across, and designed to benefit from the so-called WIG that gives a powerful natural lift to objects travelling at high speed close to the surface of water, it said.

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries said the

government plans to spend 84.5 billion won (91.7 million US dollars) within five years to support the research and development (R&D) effort. The private sector, including the project's main contractor, Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering Co, will spend another 85.5 billion won (92.8 million US dollars).

MNA/Xinhua

Rescuers find more bodies in Vietnam bridge disaster

CAN THO (Vietnam), 28 Sept — Rescue workers found five more bodies on Thursday in the rubble of a bridge that collapsed in southern Vietnam, the country's worst bridge accident in which up to 60 workers were killed.

Rescuers worked through the night cutting away steel scaffolding and concrete from Wednesday's disaster in the Mekong Delta where a section of a Japanese-funded bridge under construction collapsed while 250 workers

were on the site.

"Overnight we have retrieved five more bodies," Transport Minister Ho Nghia Dung told Reuters TV at the scene of the collapse near the heavily trafficked Hau River that separates the

city of Can Tho from Vinh Long Province.

Relatives of construction workers kept an overnight vigil near the cordoned-off disaster area, which is about 170 kilometres (105 miles) southwest of the commercial centre of Ho Chi Minh City.

One woman fainted in grief when she was told that her husband's body was among the five. It was not clear whether the bodies, discovered in the early hours of Thursday, were part of the toll of 60 reported earlier. About 100 workers were reported hurt, an estimated 17 with critical head injuries, a hospital official said.

MNA/Reuters

Iraq, Afghanistan wars to cost \$190 in 2008

WASHINGTON, 28 Sept — The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan will cost at least 190 billion US dollars in 2008, the Pentagon said on Wednesday, making it the most expensive year in the conflicts since they were launched by President George W Bush.

Defence Secretary Robert Gates asked Congress to approve the funding after Bush this month beat back demands from Democrats for a quick end to the Iraq war and said the US presence there would go on after he leaves office in 2009.

Gates said he hoped longer-term for a much smaller US force than the 165,000 troops currently in Iraq. He added that "I don't see" any of the requested money being used for preparing a military attack on Iran, which Pentagon officials say is supplying weapons used against US soldiers

in Iraq. But Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Robert Byrd told Gates not to presume the Pentagon would get the money.

"We cannot create a democracy at the point of

a gun" in Iraq, Byrd, a West Virginia Democrat, warned Gates in a hearing often interrupted by the shouts of anti-war protesters. "Sending more guns does not change that reality."

MNA/Reuters



US helicopters land at the military base where the Iraqi police graduation ceremony is held in Abu Ghraib, west of Baghdad on 25 Sept, 2007. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan will cost at least \$190 billion in 2008, the Pentagon said on Wednesday, making it the most expensive year in the wars since they were begun by President George W Bush. — INTERNET

Latin America, Caribbean world's slowest reforming region

WASHINGTON, 28 Sept — Latin America and the Caribbean is falling further behind other regions in the pace of regulatory reform and is the world's slowest reforming region, the World Bank's annual "Doing Business" report said on Wednesday.

In 2006/07, the region saw 26 positive reforms but also six changes that made countries less friendly to business, said the report.

The slowdown in reform across Latin America could be a result of a busy election year: 13 countries saw new governments sworn in, according to the report.

Earlier analysis by Doing Business suggested that the pace of reform may pick up next year, as nearly 85 per cent of reforms take place during the first 15 months a new government is in office.

Latin American entrepreneurs continue to face many obstacles.

"Starting a business in Latin America still takes 68 days on average, longer than in any other region. And the limited disclosure requirements for related-party transactions do not encourage investors", noted Sylvia Solf, one of the authors of the report.

"Other obstacles are the region's slow courts and burdensome tax systems," she added. — MNA/Xinhua

Indonesia bans beef import from Canada

JAKARTA, 28 Sept — The Indonesian Government bans the importation of Canadian beef over health concern and protests from the Ulema Council who questioned the halal certification, local Press said Thursday.

The Agriculture Minister on 13 August issued a ruling that suspended the importation, reported leading economic daily *Bisnis Indonesia*.

"According to the

decree, import of Canadian beef meat is suspended, except for the products already in shipment before the ruling was issued," Agriculture Minister Anton Apriantono told the Indonesian-language newspaper.

Beef import from a country not officially declared as fully free from the mad cow disease should pass a verification test from a ministry's team. — MNA/Xinhua

China, S Africa agree to work together on mining

BEIJING, 28 Sept — Companies from China and South Africa will be able to tap the China-Africa Development Fund for investment in minerals, energy and other industries, the two countries said in a joint communique on Wednesday.

The two countries will “explore ways to enhance capacity building in mining, construction and other industries” according to the communique, issued during a visit to the Chinese capital by South African Deputy President Phumzile Mlambo-

Ngcuka.

In June, Beijing launched the five billion US dollars China-Africa Development Fund, with initial capital of one billion US dollars to help finance Chinese investments in Africa, part of Beijing's pledge to double its aid to the continent.

Beijing is increasingly using its massive foreign reserves to lend to Africa, paving the way for its state-owned firms to bid on mining and infrastructure projects as it tries to secure raw materials supply for its booming economy.

The countries also agreed to expand exchanges and co-operation in a variety of fields, particularly aquaculture and agricultural products. China increased the number of scholarships offered to South African students.

“The Chinese side noted with appreciation the position taken by South Africa and other countries, against Taiwan's bid for UN membership during the 62nd session of the UN General Assembly,” the communique said.

MNA/Reuters

Bridge collapse claims 64 lives in Vietnam

HANOI, 28 Sept — As of Thursday noon, death toll in a bridge collapse in Vietnam's southern Mekong Delta rose to 64, *Vietnam News Agency* reported on Thursday.

The collapse of a 90-metre section of an approach ramp, which is over 30 metres above the ground and leading to the six-lane Can Tho bridge, with length of nearly 16 kilometres, the longest and

most modern one in the delta under construction, on Wednesday morning also injured some 180 others.

When the accident happened, some 250

workers of the contractor TNK comprising three Japanese firms — Taisei, Nipponsteel, and Kazima — were working at the construction site.

MNA/Xinhua

Statistics show Singapore's population growing older

SINGAPORE, 28 Sept — The latest statistics show that Singapore's population is growing older as 86 out of 1,000 people live beyond 65

years old, up from 67 out of 1,000 ten years ago.

According to the figures on Singapore's population released by the Department of Statistics on Thursday, there are now 26,000 people in Singapore who are over 85.

With the aging of the population, the ratio of working-age residents to elderly residents has declined. The ratio is now 8.4 people aged 15 to 64 for every senior aged 65 and over, while the ratio was 10.5 in 1997, meaning that there will be fewer younger folk to

support the elderly.

The statistics released a week after the debate in Parliament on the government's reforms to the Central Provident Fund (CPF), which includes the controversial new longevity insurance that requires those aged below 50 to buy an annuity that they will start collecting at 85, some 35 years later.

Figures also show there are now 4.68 million people living in Singapore, which brings the total population growth to 4.4 per cent over the previous year. — MNA/Xinhua

Civilian deaths in Iraq airstrike probed by US

BAGHDAD, 28 Sept — US forces are investigating an airstrike in southern Iraq this week which local police said killed five women and four children, a US military statement said on Thursday.

The US attack took place on Tuesday in the village of Bahbahani, about 60 kilometres (40 miles) south of Baghdad.

A military spokeswoman said on Wednesday there had been two strikes targeting buildings “pointed out by locals in Bahbahani as al-Qaeda in Iraq safe houses”.

Asked then about civilian casualties reported by local police,

the spokeswoman said the US military had no reports that civilians were killed.

Thursday's statement said US forces were “investigating the circumstances surrounding the deaths of nine civilians”.

MNA/Reuters

Nigeria gunmen kill oil worker, abduct one

ABUJA, 28 Sept — Gunmen disguised as soldiers killed one foreign oil worker and abducted another in Nigeria on Thursday in a raid on the construction yard of oil services company Saipem, security sources said.

The victim and hostage were thought to be Colombian nationals,

said the sources who asked not to be named. Police were not immediately available for comment.

“Militants dressed in army uniform came in speed boats. They killed one Colombian and abducted another from the Saipem yard. There was an exchange of fire and

the militants escaped,” a security source at a Western oil company said.

The attack follows a threat by an armed group on Sunday to launch attacks in the oil-producing region in response to the arrest of one of its leaders in Angola. — MNA/Reuters

Thailand to form committee on aviation standards

BANGKOK, 28 Sept — Thailand's Ministry of Transport decided Thursday to set up a committee to develop an aviation safety standards system, in afterthought of the 16 September air crash at Phuket Airport.

According to *Thai News Agency*, Deputy Transport Minister Sansern Wong-Chaum said after a meeting with agencies concerned, agreed to form a new committee chaired by the director-general of the Department of Civil Aviation.

The newly-established committee will meet with representatives from eight domestic airlines every month to exchange ideas about amending regulations and increasing efficiency of aviation system. The first meeting will be held in October.

Department of Civil Aviation chief Chaisak Angkasuwan said that the black box, flight data recorders, of the aircraft of Thai budget airliner One-Two-Go which crashed at Phuket International Airport on 16 September, will be sent back to Thailand on Friday after they were sent to the US for analysis last week.

The data from analysis will be tabled at the meeting of the investigation committee to be chaired by Permanent Secretary for Transport.

MNA/Xinhua

Turkey seizes 80 kilos of heroin in Istanbul

ANKARA, 28 Sept — Turkish security forces seized about 80 kilogrammes of heroin in an operation launched in the country's largest city of Istanbul, the semi-official *Anatolia* news agency reported on Tuesday.

Acting on a tip-off, the security forces raided nine separate locations on Tuesday following a 5-month pursuit and seized the large amount of heroin, according to the report.

Nine suspected people were detained in connection with the haul, said the report.

MNA/Xinhua



A young grant's zebra stands beside its mother Regina at the zoo in Wuppertal, Germany on 26 Sept, 2007. The little zebra was born on 14 September and its mother Regina was also born in the zoo of Wuppertal 16 years ago. — INTERNET

China nightclub fire kills 12

BEIJING, 28 Sept — A fire broke out in a nightclub in southern China and killed 12 people late on Tuesday, domestic media reported.

Four were killed at the club in Jiangxi Province and eight died in hospital, according to a report on the province's official news portal (www.jxcn.cn).

Another six people were injured but they are in stable condition in hospital, the report said.

Authorities are investigating the cause of the fire.

In July, mining explosives illegally stored at a nightclub in the northeastern province of Liaoning detonated and killed at least 25 people, including teenage girls celebrating a birthday and passers-by on the streets. — MNA/Reuters

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 B.A (LAW) LL.B, LL.M (UK)
 P.O.Box 109, Ph: 723043
 (For. Domnarn somgiat & Boonma, Attorneys at Law, Thailand)
 Dated. 29 September 2007

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 ရွှေတိုက်ကိုစိုး။

Bank Holiday
 All Banks will be closed on 1st October (Monday) 2007, being Bank holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.
Central Bank of Myanmar

Vattenfall chief mulls building UK nuclear power plant

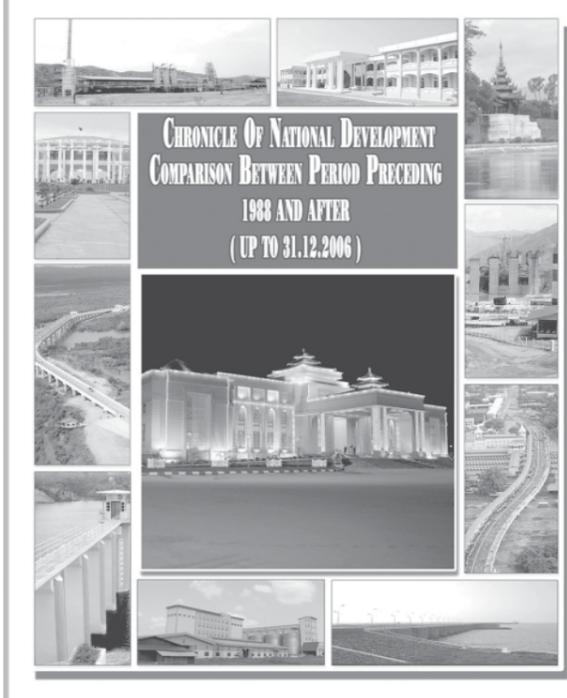
LONDON/FRANKFURT, 27 Sept— Sweden's Vattenfall, the largest utility in the nordic countries, is considering building a nuclear power plant in Britain as utilities line up to expand in the country, Vattenfall's Chief Executive said in an interview.

"We are actively interested," Lars Josefsson, chief executive of the Stockholm-based utility told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Utilities including E.ON, Electricite de France and RWE, the continent's largest, have also said they would be interested in plans by the British Government to build new nuclear power plants.

The British Government had outlined in a White Paper that new nuclear power stations would be necessary to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, which scientists say cause global warming, and to secure its energy supplies.

MNA/Reuters



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Bombings kill over 50 across Iraq

BAGHDAD, 27 Sept—Attackers unleashed a slew of explosions Wednesday across Iraq, killing more than 50 people and injuring about 70 in the bloodiest day over the past two weeks.

Two car bombs went off simultaneously at a market in Bayaa, a Shiite district in southwestern Baghdad, at dusk when people were about to have their dinner in the holy month of Ramadan. The explosions killed at least 32 people and left 28 injured, police said.

"There was an increase in violence in the past few days. We had been expecting it," US military spokesman Major General Kevin Bergner said in Baghdad.

A suicide bomber drove an explosive-laden car into an Iraqi Army patrol in Mosul of the northern Nineveh Province and blew it up in the afternoon, killing three civilians and wounding a soldier, a police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, another

suicide bomber rammed his explosive-laden car into a court building under construction in the al-Maliyah District in southern Mosul, killing three people and injuring 47 others, most of whom were workers in the building.

In addition, the security forces foiled another suicide truck bomb attack when policemen in western Mosul shot dead a truck driver before he reached the target.

The source quoted Duraid Kashmoula, governor of Mosul, as saying that a curfew was imposed on the city of Mosul until further notice due to the recent security deterioration that claimed hundreds of lives.

Earlier Wednesday, a suicide truck bomb hit a house of a tribal leader in the Nineveh Province,

killing 10 people and wounding nine others.

The attack was followed by two car bomb blasts at a town in Baghdad's neighbouring Salahudin Province. At least seven people were killed and five others wounded.

Since the US troops boosted security operations in June, Baghdad has seen a decrease of violence. Yet, bombing attacks became more frequent in other regions of the country.

The bloodshed on Wednesday punctuated the relative lull since the beginning of Ramadan or

the month of fast on 13 September, when a car bomb killed Sheikh Abdul Sattar Abu Reesha, a powerful Sunni tribal leader in Anbar Province, who echoed a US campaign of driving out al-Qaeda fighters acting in the region.

On Monday, a suspected al-Qaeda suicide bomber torpedoed a reconciliation meeting between Sunni and Shiite Muslims near the city of Baquba. The explosion at a mosque, where the talks were being held, killed 28 people and wounded 34.

MNA/Xinhua

Madagascan PM welcomes investment from China

ANTANARIVO, 27 Sept — Madagascan Prime Minister Charles Rabemananjara said on Wednesday that his government welcomes investment from China.

Rabemananjara expressed his appreciation to China's supports for the economic development of the Indian Ocean island country, saying that his government welcomes investment from China and further cooperation between business communities of the two countries.

The words came when the Prime Minister met Li Ruogu, chairman of China Export and Import Bank, here on Wednesday. The two sides discussed the possibilities of furthering cooperation.

Rabemananjara told his guests that there was more room for cooperation between the two countries, especially in the field of basic infrastructural development like road building, port construction and power development in Madagascar.

Li Ruogu, who arrived here on Wednesday morning, told Rabemananjara that he had a fruitful discussion with Madagascan Minister of Finance and Budget Andriamparany Benjamin Radavidson shortly after his arrival.— MNA/Xinhua

China to invest \$133m on sports facilities for rural students

BEIJING, 27 Sept — China will allocate one billion yuan (about 133 million US dollars) to buy sports facilities for primary and middle school students in rural areas of central and western China, a spokesman of the Ministry of Education (MoE) has said.

Wang Xuming said the fund would be used to buy common facilities for

physical exercises, including basketballs and footballs, for schools in 18 provinces and municipalities in central and western China.

Wang said it was part of the "Sunshine Physical Education" programme, launched by the MoE and started this year to improve the health of Chinese youth. It requires students to master at least two basic

physical exercise skills and do sports at least one hour a day.

"The facilities will help the students in rural areas to take more exercises and master more skills," Wang said.

A national survey shows that one in four boys in Chinese cities is clinically overweighted.

MNA/Xinhua

ပညာရေးဖြင့် ခေတ်မီမှုဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်ဖို့

Impaired brain activity may signal Alzheimer's

BEIJING, 27 Sept— Impaired activity in the medial temporal lobe (MTL) is a possible sign of early Alzheimer's disease, an important finding as new treatments become available and spotting the disease early will be critical, US researchers report.

A team at Duke University Medical Centre in Durham, NC, used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to study the brains of 13 patients with mild Alzheimer's disease, 34 patients with mild cognitive impairment, and 28 healthy people (averaging about 73 years of age) as they did a memory task. Participants with mild Alzheimer's and mild cognitive impairment showed impaired activity in the MTL, an area of the brain associated with episodic memory that normally turns on during a memory task.

Previous research had found that structural changes in the MTL are among the earliest known brain changes in people

with Alzheimer's disease.

The researchers were surprised to also discover impaired deactivation in the posteromedial cortex (PMC), a brain area involved in personal memory that's usually suppressed during a memory task.

The degree of PMC deactivation was closely related to the level of a patient's memory impairment and significantly correlated with their neuropsychological testing scores.

"In other words, the brain not only loses its ability to turn on in certain regions, but also loses its ability to turn off in other regions, and the latter may be a more sensitive marker.

These findings give us

insight into how the brain's memory networks break down, remodel and finally fail as memory impairment ensues," study lead author Dr Jeffrey R Petrella, an associate professor of radiology at Duke, said in a prepared statement.

Internet



Vietnam's President Nguyen Minh Triet (L) visits the scene of a collapsed bridge in Vietnam's Mekong Delta's Vinh Long Province on 27 Sept, 2007. Can Tho bridge, the longest bridge in the country's southern Mekong Delta under construction, collapsed on Wednesday morning.—XINHUA



An image released by Yale University's Schoelkopf Lab on 26 Sept, 2007 shows a microchip that enables quantum information to be shuttled back and forth between two superconducting qubits.

INTERNET

Wen urges to spend more on drinking water in rural areas

BEIJING, 27 Sept — The Chinese Government is planning to spend more on clean drinking water in rural areas, said Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on Tuesday.

"With increasing government revenue in the past few years, the government should invest more in solving this problem," Wen said when meeting experts from counsellors' Office of the State Council (COSC) and Central Research Institute of Culture and History.

Wang Bingchen, one of the experts from the COSC, raised the issue of water pollution in rural areas and suggested to raise subsidies for water cleaning projects.

Wen admitted the investment was still too little although the government planned to invest 40.3 billion yuan (5.36 billion US dollars) by 2010 to provide clean drinking water for 160 million rural residents.

The experts, mostly members from democratic parties and personages without party affiliation, also raised issues like energy efficiency, education of children from one-child families, civilian nuclear energy development and the protection of historic cities.

MNA/Xinhua

Unknown Modigliani painting surfaces in Serbia

BELGRADE, 27 Sept— A previously unknown painting by the early 20th Century Italian artist Amedeo Modigliani will be displayed in November in the Serbian capital, Belgrade, experts said on Tuesday.

The "Portrait of a man", dating from around 1918, is owned by an unnamed Serbian collector and is authentic, said Christian Parisot, president of the Modigliani Institut Archives Legales Paris-Rome. "It took us 17 years to verify the authenticity and I can now say for certain that it is Modigliani," Parisot said.

The canvas, which measures 46 x 38 centimetres (18 x 15 inches), shows a neatly dressed, wealthy young man with carefully combed hair. Experts said the oil colours had been watered, a sign that the artist was not

rich at the time of the work. "The identity of the model is still unknown, but we are hoping that somebody will recognize it, once the painting is presented," Parisot added.

Belgrade city hall official Dragana Zeljkovic said the owners specifically asked for the painting to be shown for the first time in Belgrade. It would be some time in late November—MNA/Reuters

UAE low-cost carrier to increase flights to Amman

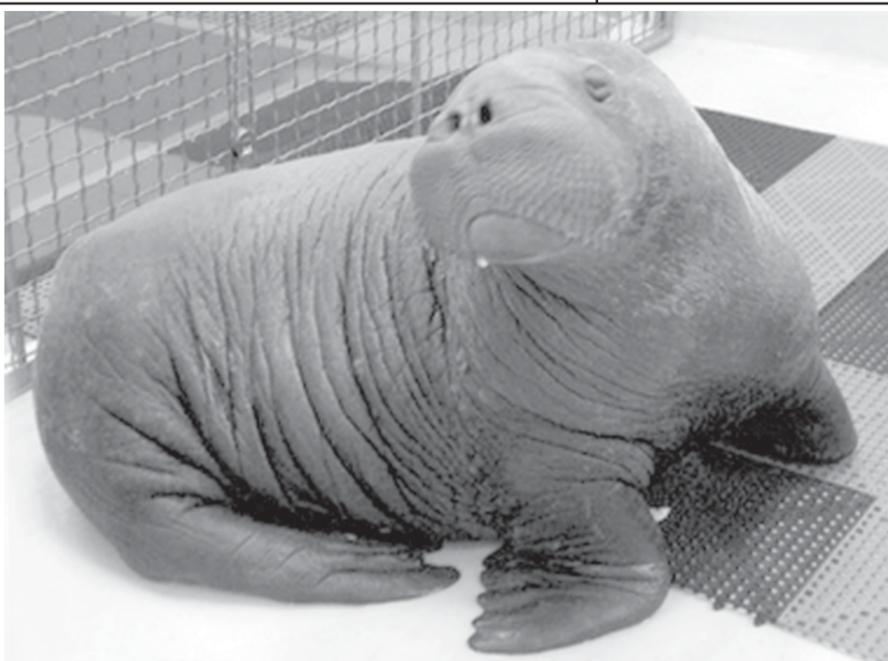
ABU DHABI, 27 Sept— Air Arabia, a low-cost carrier of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), announced on Tuesday that it will increase three

flights a week linking its hub city Sharjah with Jordanian capital Amman from 1 October, *Emirates News Agency* reported.

The increase of flight frequency will enable Air Arabia to operate the Sharjah-Amman service on a daily basis from October. As a popular route of Air Arabia, the Sharjah-Amman route registered an average load factor of 85 per cent during the first half of 2007, up from 64 per cent in the same period in the previous year, according to the report.

The four-year-old carrier is determined to carry out a strategy of expansion in both fleet and network. It was reported that Air Arabia will strike a deal to buy up to 40 new aircraft in the next few weeks, which are expected to replace the its current fleet of 10 leased Airbus A320 aircraft.

MNA/Xinhua



In this photo released by the Alaska SeaLife Centre shows young walrus at the Alaska SeaLife Center in Seward, Alaska on 21 Sept, 2007. The walrus was found without its mother in late August near the Red Dog Mine port facility south of Kivalina, Alaska.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Haas, Berdych advance into 2nd round at Thailand open

BANGKOK, 28 Sept — Tommy Haas and Tomas Berdych moved into the second round of the Thailand Open on Wednesday. The wins by the Czech third seed and German number four came after Andy Roddick, the world number five, dealt the limping tournament a hammer blow, withdrawing with a foot injury an hour before the start of his opening match. Berdych, ranked 10th in the world, got a brisk workout from local wild card Kittipong Wachiramanowong, notching a 6-3, 6-0 win in just 50 minutes.

Haas, the world number 11, had a more difficult time, but rallied to beat Vince Spadea, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1. It was the Florida-based German's ninth victory in 11 matches against the veteran American.

Thai ace Paradorn Srichaphan has not played since March with a wrist injury and is due for surgery in Germany within days. In other matches, sixth seed Dmitry Tursunov defeated Austrian veteran Werner Eschauer 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 while Spain's number eight Fernando Verdasco put out American David Martin 6-2, 6-1. — MNA/Xinhua

Hewitt heads into Mumbai quarterfinals at double

MUMBAI, 28 Sept — Former world number one Lleyton Hewitt made a convincing return to action by winning two matches on Thursday to storm into the quarterfinals of the Mumbai Open.

Hewitt beat 89th-ranked Serbian Boris Pashanski 7-6, 6-2 in the rain-interrupted second round, hours after the Australian had brushed aside Taiwan's Chen Ti 6-3, 6-3 in a morning match that had been called off on Wednesday due to rain.

French world number 14 and top seed Richard Gasquet beat Italian Fabio Fognini 6-0, 6-1 to romp into the quarterfinals.

Hewitt had pulled out of Sunday's Davis Cup singles rubber against Serbia's Novak Djokovic with a virus and Australia, winners of 28 Davis Cup titles, were relegated from the elite world group.

Pashanski, who beat Sergio Roitman of Argentina in the morning, proved a gritty customer and stretched the 26-year-old world number 21 into a tiebreak in the first set. The Serbian broke back in the ninth game before a drizzle interrupted play for nearly half an hour with Hewitt leading 5-4.

MNA/Reuters



International team member Vijay Singh of Fiji drives at the 11th hole during the practice round at The Royal Montreal Golf Club host of the 2007 President's Cup on 26 Sept, 2007 in Montreal. Phil Mickelson, issued a "Phil Who?" taunt by Singh and with a history of losses to Mike Weir, was set to face down both challenges Thursday in an emotional start to the Presidents Cup matches. — INTERNET

Napoli given stadium ban over fans' conduct

ROME, 28 Sept — Napoli will host Genoa behind closed doors on Sunday as punishment for their fans' conduct at Wednesday's Serie A game against Livorno, Italian media reported on Thursday.

Napoli fans had displayed an offensive banner, set off smoke bombs and thrown bottles — "one of which hit the chest of a (referee's) assistant, causing him pain", *La Gazzetta dello Sport* quoted the Italian Soccer League as saying on its website (www.gazzetta.it).

Italian soccer has been beset by crowd trouble in recent years and is still recovering from the death of a police officer at a Serie A game in Catania in February.

Sunday's derby match between Sampdoria and Genoa was marred by clashes between rival fans before kick off. — MNA/Reuters

Real return to top with 2-0 win over Betis

MADRID, 28 Sept — Real Madrid returned to the top of the Primera Liga after a Raul penalty and a spectacular bicycle kick from Julio Baptista gave them a 2-0 victory over Real Betis on Thursday.

The Real captain, starting up front with Javier Saviola rather than usual partner Ruud van Nistelrooy who was rested, wasted several good chances but redeemed himself in the 67th minute when Betis defender David Rivas brought him down.

Robinho scored in the resulting confusion and Real felt aggrieved to have the goal disallowed but Raul settled the matter when he converted the spot-kick for his third

league goal of the season.

The win left the champions on 13 points after five games and sent them back to the top of La Liga after Villarreal's brief spell at the summit for the first time in their history.

Although Bernd Schuster's side looked lively early on, as they did against Valladolid on Sunday, they lacked a cutting edge and apart from Raul's wastefulness and a dipping Wesley Sneijder free kick, created few genuine chances before the break.

Betis almost punished them, bursting into life in the closing minutes of the first half.

MNA/Reuters



A Law Enforcement official (C) and Special Olympics athletes run with the torch of the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games in China's Hong Kong, on 27 Sept, 2007. — XINHUA

Dunga says qualifiers more difficult than finals

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 Sept — Brazil coach Dunga said the qualifying competition was more difficult than the World Cup itself on Thursday as he named his squad for the first two games on the road to the 2010 finals in South Africa.

Dunga avoided any surprises in the 22-man squad for next month's matches against Colombia and Ecuador which

kick off a marathon 18-match, two-year campaign.

Ronaldinho and Kaka were both included as expected and there was no place for forward Ronaldo, who has not been picked since last year's World Cup and is currently injured.

Brazil, the only team to have played at all 18 World Cups and winners of a record five, begin with a tricky match away to Colombia in Bogota on October 14.

They host Ecuador in Rio de Janeiro three days later in their first home match for two years and their first at the famous Maracana since a 5-0 win

over Bolivia in 2000.

Although Brazil have never failed to reach the finals, they have had some tricky moments in the past, especially in the qualifiers for 2002 when they lost six of their 18 matches.

"The qualifiers are much more difficult than the finals," said Dunga. "Everyone wants to beat Brazil, we're the only team that speaks Portuguese, there's the atmosphere, the away games.

"Against Brazil, the other teams play with more determination and they change their characteristics. We have to be ready for any surprise, any difficulty."

MNA/Reuters

Tampere United close in on Finnish title

HELSINKI, 28 Sept 28 — Tampere United moved closer to a third Finnish league title after beating rivals FC Haka Valkeakoski 2-1 with a last-minute winner on Thursday.

Jari Niemi gave Tampere a 21st minute lead but midfielder Jarno Mattila looked to have earned Haka a share of the points with an 84th minute equalizer before striker Antti Pohja scored Tampere's winner with a looping shot.

Tampere, who will host Helsinki's HJK on Monday, are top of the table with 47 points, with five games remaining. Second-placed Haka have 40 points and TPS Turku 35.

MNA/Reuters

Urawa Reds beat Asian Champions League holders Chonbuk

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 Sept — Japan's Urawa Reds reached the Asian Champions League semifinals with a 2-0 win at 10-man holders Chonbuk Motors of South Korea on Wednesday.

The J League leaders completed a 4-1 aggregate victory at the Jeonju World Cup Stadium after last week's 2-1 win in Saitama in the first leg of their quarterfinal.

Urawa, looking to become the first Japanese club to win the trophy, took a third minute lead when Tatsuya Tanaka pounced on the loose ball after goalkeeper Sung Kyung-il spilled Robson Ponte's shot from outside the area.

Chonbuk defender Chung Kyung-ho was sent off by referee Ibrahim Al Ghamdi in the 22nd minute for diving after he fell theatrically under a challenge in the penalty area by Makoto Hasebe. He had already been booked for dissent. — MNA/Reuters

Mugabe slams Bush 'hypocrisy' on human rights

UNITED NATIONS, 28 Sept — Zimbabwe's President, Robert Mugabe, accused US President George W Bush of "rank hypocrisy" on Wednesday for lecturing him on human rights and likened the US Guantanamo Bay Prison to a concentration camp.

"His hands drip with innocent blood of many nationalities," Mugabe said in a typically fiery speech to the UN General Assembly. "He kills in Iraq. He kills in Afghanistan. And this is supposed to be our master on human rights?"

Mugabe, 83, in power since independence from Britain in 1980, was speaking the day after Bush scolded the governments of Belarus, Syria, Iran and North Korea as "brutal regimes" in his speech to the General Assembly.

He said Bush imprisoned and tortured people in Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq and at Guantanamo, the US military prison in

Cuba where al-Qaeda suspects are held.

"At that concentration camp, international law does not apply," said Mugabe, a former Marxist guerilla who fought for independence from Britain.

"America is primarily responsible for rewriting core tenets of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights," he said. "We seem all guilty for 9/11."

Mugabe said Bush and his ally, former British prime minister Tony Blair, "rode roughshod" over the United Nations when they went to war in Iraq, yet now Bush was asking the world body to expand its role in Iraq.

"Almighty Bush is

now coming back to the UN for a rescue package because his nose is bloodied. Yet he

dares to lecture us on tyranny," Mugabe said.

MNA/Reuters

Four Chilean soldiers injured in arms factory explosion

SANTIAGO, 28 Sept — Four Chilean soldiers were injured on Tuesday in a blast in an arms factory in the central Chilean city of Talagante, Interior Minister Felipe Harboe said.

He said that two of the injured suffered serious burns on over 60 per cent of their bodies. They have been taken to the Santiago military hospital by an emergency helicopter.

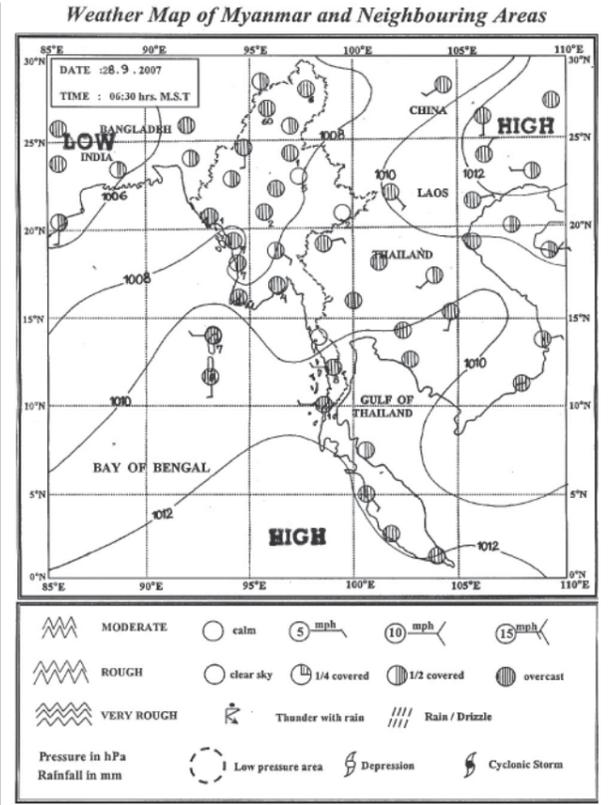
The other two sustained lesser injuries and were taken to the hospital

overland.

"There was a large explosion whose causes are being investigated," Harboe said.

Raul Leiva, head of Talagante's local authorities, said the injured were first treated in the Talagante Provincial Hospital's accident and emergency department and their lives were not at risk.

MNA/Xinhua



WEATHER

Friday, 28 September, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hour MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin, Kayah and Kayin States, lower Sagaing and Ayeyawady Divisions, scattered in upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan, Rakhine and Mon States and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Hkamti (2.36) inches, Dawei (1.26) inches, Shwegyin (1.10) inches, Minbu (0.91) inch, Monywa and Myeik (0.82) inch each.

Maximum temperature on 27-9-2007 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 28-9-2007 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hour MST on 28-9-2007 was 93%. Total sunshine hours on 27-9-2007 was (1.7) hours approx.

Rainfall on 28-9-2007 was (0.43) inch at Mingaladon, (0.16) inch at Kaba-Aye and (Nil) at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (125.39) inches at Mingaladon, (129.29) inches at Kaba-Aye and (133.31) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from South at (15:30) hours MST on 27-9-2007.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea, South Bay and weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 29-9-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, fairly widespread in Kachin State, Yangon and Bago Divisions, scattered in Chin, Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States, upper Sagaing and Ayeyawady Divisions and isolated in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of thundery conditions in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 29-9-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 29-9-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 29-9-2007: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Weather outlook for first weekend of October 2007: During the coming weekend, rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Yangon Division, isolated in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Division.

Earthquake report

(Issued at 22:30 hour MST Toady)

A strong earthquake of intensity (7.0) Richter Scale with its epicentre (outside Myanmar about 1060) miles South of Kaba-Aye Seismological Observatory was recorded at 20 hrs (17) mm (10) sec MST on 28 September, 2007.



Saturday, 29 September

View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင်မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ့ မဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာ ရဋ္ဌဂုဏ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာ သဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တဝိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:15 am

2. တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မာဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ အဂ္ဂမဟာပဏ္ဍိတဘဒ္ဒန္တသိရိန္ဒာ ဘိဝံသ(ယောဆရာတော်) ဟောကြားတော်မူအပ်သော ဥပ္ပါတသန္တိပဋိတော်

7:25 am

3. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

4. Morning news

7:40 am

5. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

6. လက်ဆင့်ကမ်းအမွေ

8:00 am

7. မဒေးရေလှောင်တစ်

8:15 am

8. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:25 am

9. Musical programme

8:30 am

10. International news

8:45 am

11. Grammar made easy

11:00 am

1. Martial song

11:15 am

2. Musical programme

11:30 am

3. News

11:40 am

4. Games for children

12:05 pm

5. "ဆည်းဆာချိန်လေး လှပါစေ" (ပြေတီဦး၊ ဖိုးသောကြာ၊ မင်းရာဇာ၊ နိုင်နင်းဝေ၊ မျိုးစန္ဒီကျော်၊ ပုလဲဝင်း၊ ဒါရိုက်တာ-မြင့်စိုး(ဝ/သ)

12:50 pm

6. အရေးပြိုင်ပွဲ

1:00 pm

7. Dance of national races

1:15 pm

8. (၂၄)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ အားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်မည့် မြန်မာအားကစားအဖွဲ့များ၏ ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်မှုများ (ကရာတေးဒို)

1:30 pm

9. သက်တံရောင်သံစဉ်

1:45 pm

10. အကပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:00 pm

11. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်၊ (၁၅)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီး ပြိုင်ပွဲ (ပြဇာတ်ပြိုင်ပွဲ ဆွေးနွေးခန်း)(အပိုင်း-၁)

2:20 pm

12. The mirror images of the musical oldies

2:30 pm

13. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ

2:45 pm

14. International news

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Song for uphold national spirit

4:30 pm

3. English for everyday use

4:40 pm

4. အဆေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ -စတုတ္ထနှစ် (ဥပဒေပညာအထူးပြု) (ဥပဒေပညာ)

4:55 pm

5. မြူးမြူးကြွကြွ ယဉ်ကျေးမှုအက

5:10 pm

6. နားဝင်ပီသသူလက်သံ

5:15 pm

7. Musical programme

5:25 pm

8. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်၊ (၁၅)ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာ့ရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆို၊ အက၊ အရေး၊ အတီး ပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များလေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန် (ကာလပေါ်တေးနှင့် ခေတ်ဟောင်းတေး) (အဆင့်မြင့်ပညာအဆင့်) (အမျိုးသား)

5:35 pm

9. ရသပေါ်လွင် သရုပ်ဆောင်လွင်ပြင်

6:00 pm

10. Evening news

6:30 pm

11. Weather report

6:35 pm

12. အလှရှာမယ်လှကမ္ဘာဝယ်

7:05 pm

13. ဆောင်းပါးရှင်ကျော်မင်းသူ (ရွှေပြည်သာ)၏ "ယနေ့ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရေးမြင်ကွင်းမှ အမှန်နှင့်အမှားများ" (အပိုင်း-၃)

7:15 pm

14. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "သမားတော်"(အပိုင်း-၆၂)

8:00 pm

15. News

8:00 pm

16. International news

8:00 pm

17. Weather report

8:00 pm

18. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်စရာပျိုကညာ" (အပိုင်း-၇)

8:00 pm

19. The next day's programme



Saturday, 29 September

Tune in today

8:30 am Brief news

8:35 am Music

-Angel

8:40 am Perspectives

8:45 am Music

-Morning light

8:50 am National news

9:00 am Music

-My girl

9:05 am International news

9:10 am Music

-I feel so fine

1:30 pm News /slogan

1:40 pm Music at your request / music

-To love you more

-For you I will

9:00 pm ASEAN news

Exchange news from ASEAN member countries

9:20 pm Myanmar culture ... Dr Khin Maung Nyunt

"Pintaya Shwe U Min Pagoda"

9:30 pm Souvenirs

-My girl

-Nights are forever without you

9:45 pm News /Slogan

10:00 pm PEL

★ **BBC and VOA airing skyful of lies**

★ **Beware of BBC and VOA saboteurs**

People's Desire

★ **We favour stability.**

★ **We favour peace.**

★ **We oppose unrest and violence.**

Peace and stability restored, traveling and marketing back to normal in Yangon

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Sept—Most recently there have been protests staged by monks and violent acts launched by those bent on destructive acts.

To ensure peace and stability the security forces handled the situation with care using the least force. During the three-day incident 39 members of the security forces were injured while ten unidentified

male protesters were dead and 12 men and two women injured.

Today, about 30 people desirous of inciting unrest staged protests in four different places in Yangon. Of them, seven were arrested and investigated by the authorities concerned.

The underground and above-ground destruc-

tive elements and the anti-government groups are spreading fabricated news among the people.

As such, the people are advised not to believe those fabricated news and to directly contact the Ministry of Information (Tel: 067-412031) for authentic news.

MNA

Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) U-21 Football Tournament continues

YANGON, 28 Sept — The 23rd Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) Commander-in-Chief's Cup U-21 Foot-

ball Tournament continued at the designated venues this evening.

In the group-A, South-East Command

won over Navy with 2-0 in Mawlamyine Zone. In the group-B, South-West Command won over No 55 LID with 3-2 in Patheingyi

Zone. In the group-C, Air Force won over No 101 LID with 4-1 in Monywa Zone. In the group-D, Central Command

thumbed No 22 LID with 7-4 in Mandalay Zone, and Yangon Command routed No 88 LID with 16-0 in the same venue.

In the group-E, Eastern Command whitewashed No 33 LID with 7-0 in Toungoo Zone.

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