

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

Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Thein Sein on his return from LPDR, SRV

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe welcomed back Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein and party on their return from the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at Nay Pyi Taw Airport, here, at 11 am today. The Prime Minister and party visited Laos at the invitation of Lao PDR Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh and Vietnam at the invitation of SRV Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung.

Also present at the airport were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, SPDC member General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, SPDC members Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Lt-Gen Khin

Maung Than and Lt-Gen Maung Bo of the Ministry of Defence, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, senior military officers, Charges d' Affaires of Lao PDR Embassy and the Vietnamese Embassy, departmental heads and officials.

Members of the Myanmar delegation — Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin, Director-General U Phae Thann Oo of the Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Pro-



Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.
MNA

ocol Department and departmental officials — arrived back on the same flight. — MNA

USDA helping create prosperous future of the motherland

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The USDA is a national force formed to serve the interests of the nation and the people. Young members are actively taking part in nation-building tasks and national politics.

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KYI WIN NYUNT

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

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 11 November, 2007

Work together with entire people to expedite nation-building tasks

The Union Solidarity and Development Association was established on 15 September 1993 to serve the interests of the nation and the people.

It came into being with five objectives—Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity, Perpetuation of sovereignty, Promotion and vitalization of national pride, and Emergence of a prosperous, peaceful and modern nation.

The number of the members is on the increase owing to systematically nurturing young members, guiding the members to enable them to equip themselves firmly with concepts and conviction, alongside noble objectives, aims and future plans of the Association.

The Association is sharpening the abilities of the growing number of young members. It is required of all members to organize the entire people in order to participate in the drive for building a new nation, while placing emphasis on uplift of dynamism of Union Spirit.

The majority of the members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, a strong national force, are younger generation. Therefore, all members have to speed up the implementation of nation-building tasks hand in hand with the people for national development.

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People's Desire

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

Prime Minister General Thein Sein proceeds to Vietnam from Lao PDR



Lao PDR Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh presents documentary photo album on goodwill visit to Prime Minister General Thein Sein. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov — A Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein called on Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh of the Lao People's Democratic Republic at the Government Guest House at 7.10 am Laos Standard Time yesterday.

At the call, the Lao PDR Prime Minister presented the documentary photo album on the goodwill visit to Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Also present at the call were ministers, ambassadors and departmental heads.

At 8 am, Prime Minister General Thein Sein

and party arrived at Wattay International Airport of Lao PDR. The Prime Minister and party were seen off at the airport by Lao Minister of Industry and Commerce Mr Nam Vinhaket, Lao Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Hiem Phommachan and Lao Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kouily A Souphakhet and officials, Myanmar Ambassador U Nyunt Hlaing and wife, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Than Win and wife, staff and family members of Myanmar embassy and military attaché's office.

Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and party left by special aircraft for Vietnam. — MNA

Myanmar to compete in 9th World Wushu Championship

YANGON, 10 Nov — The Myanmar Wushu Team will take part in the 9th World Wushu Championship to be held

in Beijing of the People's Republic of China from 11 to 17 November.

The Myanmar Wushu Team comprises

leader Dr Sai Hsam Tun (President of Myanmar Wushu Federation), managers U Tint Naing and U Aye Cho Tu,

coaches U Aung Thu Naing and U Tun Tun Oo, referees U Khin Maung Nyein and U Khun Ja Aung together with Wushu athletes — Aung Sithu, Myo Min Soe, Soe Win Thein, Soe Kyaw, Saw Kyaw Soe Moe, Myo Ko, Maung Maung Than and Kyaw Naing Oo, Honey Ko Ko, Sandi Oo, Thet Thet Naing, Yazar Khaing, Si Si Sein and Naw Mar Tun.

The team secured two silver and one bronze medals in the 8th World Wushu Championship.



Myanmar Wushu Team seen at Yangon International Airport before departure for Beijing. — MWF

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Argentina says China's growth huge opportunity for world

BUENOS AIRES, 10 Nov — China's growth offers immense opportunities for the world, Argentine Foreign Minister Jorge Taiana has said.

China's development means immense opportunities for Argentina and the rest of the world, rather than a threat or challenge, Taiana said during a meeting with China's new Ambassador Zeng Gang on Tuesday.

Taiana said the Argentine Government wishes to see a powerful China and its economic growth, and is

ready to consolidate and strengthen the country's relations with China.

The Foreign Minister said Argentina and China enjoy close cooperation in the political, economic, military and scientific fields and the two countries also share similar positions on issues concerning national sovereignty and territorial integrity and other major international issues.

Zeng arrived in Argentina on October 17.

MNA/Xinhua



Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez symbolically plants a tree at the 'Parque de los Presidentes' in Santiago, on 9 Nov, 2007, after the official photo of the XVII Iberoamerican Summit. — INTERNET



A house is surrounded by flood water in the village of Walcott near Great Yarmouth, eastern England, on 9 Nov, 2007. Police urged thousands of families to leave their homes on Friday as the Norfolk and Kent coasts braced for severe flooding from a tidal surge in the North Sea. — INTERNET

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Stanford students protest Rumsfeld appointment

STANFORD (California), 10 Nov — More than 100 Stanford University students demonstrated on Thursday against a decision to make former US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution amid campus discontent over a symbol of US failings in the Iraq War.

To date, nearly 4,000 Stanford faculty, students and alumni have signed a petition begun by a faculty member to reject Rumsfeld's appointment announced in September, but John Raisian, the institute's director, said Rumsfeld deserved the

honor of being a "distinguished visiting fellow."

"Donald Rumsfeld has a remarkable record of achievement," Raisian told the Stanford Faculty Senate. "Like it or not, he has had a distinguished career."

Rumsfeld twice served as defence secretary under president Gerald Ford and President George W. Bush. He also served under president Richard Nixon; in the House of Representatives; as an ambassador to NATO; and as chief executive of two Fortune 500 companies.

MNA/Reuters

Blast in Philippine village kills four

MANILA, 9 Nov — A powerful explosion ripped through a residential village south of the Philippine capital Manila on Thursday, killing four people and wounding two, police said.

Fidel Posadas, police chief in Cavite Province, said a large cache of dynamite stored in one of the houses in Bacoor town likely caused the blast but investigators were still trying to find out what set it off.

Illegal dynamite fishing still occurs in the Philippines and along the Cavite coastline.

Television images showed the blast reduced a two-storey concrete house to a pile of twisted

steel and concrete slabs and five nearby houses were also damaged.

Witnesses said the explosion was felt almost

a kilometre away, cutting power in the entire village and throwing bodies several metres.

MNA/Reuters

People look at candles lit in front of the Jokela school centre in Tuusula on 9 Nov, 2007. Finland decided on Friday to toughen its gun policies after an 18-year-old killed six fellow students and two staff members with a handgun this week in the country's deadliest school shooting. INTERNET



Thai Samui resort declared disaster zone

BANGKOK, 9 Nov — Thailand's southern Samui Island is declared disaster zone on Thursday after it was hit by heavy rain the night before.

The rain caused flood in several areas on the

famous island of Surat Thani Province. Water level on the main road is as high as 30 centimetres.

Hundreds of tourists were left stranded as weather condition

prevented air planes from taking off since late Wednesday.

Authorities are trying to pump water into river to alleviate the problem and prevent further flooding if rain comes

again.

According to local media reports, provincial authorities have dispatched some 200 soldiers onto the island to assist locals and tourists.

MNA/Xinhua

Thoratec recalls heart-assist devices

CHICAGO, 9 Nov — Thoratec Corp said on Thursday it was recalling all of its heart-assist devices after receiving reports of damaged components which resulted in several injuries and one patient death. The device, known as an implantable ventricular assist device, or IVAD, may be implanted or used externally to assist heart function.

In the external

position, the pneumatic driveline used with the device is entirely external to the patient and may be damaged if the driveline is bent at a sharp angle which could cause a reduction or interruption of circulatory support, potentially resulting in serious injury or death.

Five injuries and one death had been reported.

MNA/Reuters

Cambodia celebrates 54th Independence Day

PHNOM PENH, 10 Nov — Cambodia King Norodom Sihamoni ignited the torch inside the Independence Monument to symbolize the country's liberation from 90 years' colonial rule by France, while hosting the national ceremony to mark the 54th Independence Day here on Friday.

"The victorious torch stands for our freedom and the soul of our nation," said Min Khin, secretary general of the National Committee for Organizing National and International

Festivals, adding that the torch fire will remain burning for three days.

Prime Minister Hun Sen, Senate President Chea Sim, National Assembly President Heng Samrin and other senior country leaders, together with more than 20,000 students, civil servants, Armed Forces, government officials and foreign diplomats, also attended the ceremony.

"Today we celebrate our Independence Day. We now have freedom and we manage the country by

ourselves," said Min Khin.

"We have always remembered the achievements of retired king Norodom Sihanouk, who did his crusade to win independence from France in 1953. Our people can sacrifice their lives for the independence of the country," he added. At the ceremony, a number of large size file photos of Sihanouk and Sihamoni could be seen at the hands of the audience.

MNA/Xinhua



India's benchmark share index is displayed on the facade of the illuminated Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) building during the Hindu festival of Diwali, or the festival of lights, in Mumbai on 9 Nov, 2007. —INTERNET

Wrong loading of rods results in construction accident in Dubai

ABU DHABI, 10 Nov — Wrong loading of steel rods had led to a construction accident in Dubai on Thursday, which killed seven workers and injured 15 others, local media reported.

The accident happened when a scaffolding on a bridge under construction in Dubai Marina, a luxury commercial and residential development in Dubai, collapsed at local time 6:20 pm (1420 GMT) in the day.

Seven were killed and 15 others injured in the accident, Dubai police said.

The accident was caused by human error when steel rods were wrongly loaded, Mattar Al Tayer, chairman of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority, told

Dubai TV.

"There was a fault in the cement pillar of a bridge under construction," a report by gulfnews.com quoted deputy commandant of Dubai Police Jamal Al Merri as saying.

MNA/Xinhua



A citizen participates in the game of escaping from fire during the fire-control sports meet in Tianjin, north China, on 9 Nov, 2007. The Heping Community of Tianjin held a fire-control sports meet Friday, attracting a lot of students, residents and employees. —XINHUA

Another mass grave found in western Iraq

RAMADI (Iraq), 10 Nov — Iraqi security forces discovered a new mass grave contained seven bodies in execution-style in Anbar Province, a provincial police source

said on Thursday.

The bodies, blindfolded and handcuffed, were found in the Lake Tharthar area east of Ramadi, some 100 kilometres northwest of

Baghdad, during a joint US and Iraqi operation against the al-Qaeda fighters in the area, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Two more mass graves were also discovered in the area, but the security forces did not excavate them yet, the source said.

On Tuesday, the Iraqi security forces announced they discovered the remains of 22 bodies buried in a mass grave in the area.

The area, where the mass graves were found, has long been under control by the al-Qaeda terrorist network, the source said, adding that the security forces believe the victims were previously kidnapped and killed by the al-Qaeda fighters.

MNA/Xinhua

Girls of Yi ethnic group perform dragon dance at the Cultural Square of Shiping county, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 8 Nov, 2007. —XINHUA



Afghan District chief dies in Taliban shoot-out

KABUL, 9 Nov — Taliban insurgents killed an Afghan District chief and his two bodyguards in the southern province of Zabul on Thursday, a provincial official said.

"Four Taliban militants on motorbikes opened fire on a vehicle carrying the Shah Joy District chief Qomandan Toor late this afternoon," said provincial intelligence chief Abdul Habib.

"The district chief and his two bodyguards were killed instantly and the insurgents fled the area." — MNA/Reuters

Indonesia demands WHO return bird flu samples

JAKARTA, 10 Nov — The Indonesian Health Ministry has criticized the World Health Organization (WHO) for ignoring repeated requests for the return 58 bird flu viruses, local Press said Friday.

Health Minister Siti Fadilah Supari said Thursday the ministry asked for the return of the samples three months ago, but had yet to receive any response.

"We have been demanding the return of our viruses since August, but the WHO has never replied," she was quoted by local newspaper *The Jakarta Post* as saying.

Siti said Indonesia did not keep a stockpile of seed viruses because international regulations did not allow it.

"The regulation is actually detrimental to us, because it obliges the source country to give up all its samples."

MNA/Xinhua

Kazakhstan, China agree to press ahead with pipeline

ALMATY, 9 Nov — China and Kazakhstan agreed to press ahead with plans to construct a natural gas pipeline in 2008-2009 that would give Beijing access to Caspian Sea gas reserves, the Kazakh state energy company said on Thursday.

KazMunaiGas said in a statement it had signed an agreement with China

National Petroleum Corp (CNPC) setting out principles of future work on the pipeline, which would annually pump 40 billion cubic metres of gas.

"This project would help transport gas to China and diversify Kazakhstan's gas export routes," KazMunaiGas said.

Currently Central Asia's top gas producers, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, use a pipeline network operated by Russian gas monopoly Gazprom to sell their gas internationally.

Energy-hungry China sees the new gas pipeline, as well as a separate oil pipeline linking it with Kazakhstan, as a step towards entrenching itself in Central Asia where most exports are now channelled west to Europe.

Kazakhstan and China agreed in August to route the gas pipeline from Turkmenistan through Kazakh territory. The pipeline is also expected to go through neighbouring Uzbekistan.

MNA/Reuters



China Eastern Airlines aircrafts sit on the tarmac of the International Airport in Beijing. Singapore Airlines and the city-state's Temasek Holdings have signed a final agreement to buy 24 percent in China Eastern Airlines, the nation's third-largest carrier, the firms said on Friday.— INTERNET

Euro-Asia economic forum opens in China

XI'AN, 9 Nov — A senior Chinese leader on Thursday proposed that efforts be made to forge a Euro-Asia partnership featuring peace, amity and harmony to inject continuous vitality into regional development.

Jia Qinglin, Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), made the remarks in a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the second Euro-Asia Economic Forum in Xi'an, northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

Jia, also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, said the central task of future Euro-Asia regional cooperation is to implement consensus reached by all sides and turn the potential of

cooperation into real achievements as soon as possible.

The second Euro-Asia Economic Forum opened on Thursday morning in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, drawing 1,400 delegates from more than 20 countries. During the two-day forum, participants will discuss cooperation and development in the fields of energy, tourism, education, finance. A roundtable meeting of governors and mayors will also be held, according to the organizers.

The forum is sponsored by the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Secretariat, the SCO Business Council, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the secretariat of Eurasian Economic Community, China Development Bank and Shaanxi Provincial Government.

MNA/Xinhua



ECONOMIC NEWS

Brazilian singer Pamela arrives at the 8th annual Latin Grammy Awards in Las Vegas on 8 Nov, 2007.— INTERNET

Microsoft official fired for violating policies

WASHINGTON, 9 Nov — Microsoft Corp has fired its chief information officer, Stuart Scott, for "violating company policies" after an internal investigation, *The Wall Street Journal* reported on Wednesday.

A Microsoft spokes-woman declined to comment on whether the violation was material to the company or whether it would require reporting to law-enforcement authorities, said the report.

Hired by Microsoft in July 2005, Scott was a corporate vice president at the company in addition to its chief information officer, overseeing the

information-technology systems used by the 80,000 person company.

Scott joined Microsoft from General Electric Co, where he spent 17 years in various roles, most recently as chief information officer of multiple divisions, including health care.

Microsoft said it is looking for a successor and, in the meantime, Microsoft General Manager Shahla Aly and Vice-President Alain Crozier will assume Scott's responsibilities, according to the report.

MNA/Xinhua

Bernanke says US economic growth to slow significantly

WASHINGTON, 10 Nov — Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said on Thursday that the US economic growth will slow significantly in coming

months mainly due to the recent financial turmoil.

The Federal Reserve "expected that the growth of economic activity would slow

noticeably in the fourth quarter from its third-quarter rate", Bernanke told Congress' Joint Economic Committee.

"Growth was seen as remaining sluggish during the first part of next year, then strengthening as the effects of tighter credit and the housing correction begin to wane," he added.

MNA/Xinhua

An aerial shot of Hong Kong's Victoria Harbour. The director of the next Batman film said Friday a planned scene in which the caped crusader dived into Hong Kong's harbour was cut because of script changes and not the water's severe pollution.—INTERNET





An Iranian man hugs freed Iranian diplomat Moussa Asgari (C), who were detained in January in Iraq, in International Imam Khomeini Airport in south of Teheran on 9 Nov 2007.— INTERNET

Sierra Leone's new President reiterates to "one-China" policy

LAGOS, 9 Nov — Sierra Leone's new President Ernest Bai Koroma reiterated on Wednesday that his government unswervingly adheres to the "one-China" policy and supports China's great cause of national reunification.

Koroma made the remarks when meeting with Chinese special

envoy Zhai Jun at the Presidential Palace, the Chinese Embassy in Freetown, capital of Sierra Leone, said in a Press release.

Zhai, also Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister, conveyed Chinese President Hu Jintao's congratulations on his election, saying that China-Sierra Leone relations have enjoyed a

healthy and stable development since the two nations established diplomatic ties 36 years ago. Both sides have achieved fruitful results in such fields as politics, economy and trade, he said, adding that the Chinese Government appreciates that Sierra Leone stands by the "one-China" policy.

MNA/Xinhua

Heavy fog shrouds N-E China, disrupting traffic

SHENYANG, 9 Nov— A heavy fog that blanketed northeast China's Liaoning Province earlier this week continued to envelop the provincial capital, Shenyang, on Thursday, causing highway closures and delaying or canceling flights.

Visibility in Shenyang was between 200 and 500 metres through the afternoon, according to Shenyang Meteorological Observatory.

At Shenyang Taoxian International Airport, more than 1,000 travellers were grounded as 32 flights were delayed.

More flights were expected to be delayed or cancelled due the fog, airport sources said.

MNA/Xinhua

Russia says no deal with US on European arms control treaty

MOSCOW, 9 Nov — Russia and the United States have not entered into any deal over the 1990 European arms control treaty, Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Kislyak told reporters on Wednesday.

The minister's remarks came after the country's Parliament voted unanimously to suspend Moscow's participation in the treaty earlier the same day.

He denied that the

United States intended to make concessions to Russia on the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty (CFE treaty) and missile defence system in exchange for Russia's concession on Kosovo and Iran.

"I see no way in which one situation can be exchanged for the other," Kislyak was quoted by the ITAR-TASS news agency as saying.

"There are separate,

fundamental positions on all of these problems both in Russia and in the United States. Each of these questions requires an independent solution," Kislyak said.

The CFE treaty, signed by NATO members and Warsaw Pact countries in 1990, aimed at establishing a balance in Europe by cutting weapons of conventional armed forces.

MNA/Xinhua

ASEAN to establish seafood testing labs

HANOI, 10 Nov — Vietnam and other members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) are counting on the support of the European Union (EU) to form a network of ASEAN Fishery Reference Laboratories (AFRLs) that will provide internationally-recognized quality testing services for seafood exported to the block.

At a workshop recently held by the Vietnamese Government and the ASEAN-EU Programme for Regional Integration Support — Phase II (APRIS II) in Hanoi capital, Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Luong Le Phuong said Vietnam would create all necessary conditions for the country's National Fisheries Quality

Assurance and Veterinary Directorate to work with the EU and ASEAN counterparts in joining the AFRL network, local newspaper Vietnam News reported Friday.

A final decision on the EU support was expected to be reached at the APRIS II annual meeting, probably in 2008.

Phuong said the support would not only help each ASEAN member provide higher accuracy and reliability in quality testing, but also be an important basis for importing countries to accredit product quality.

Cross-accreditation among ASEAN labs was important because it would help cut cost incurred for duplicate tests by enterprises doing business in the seafood sector, he added.

MNA/Xinhua

Gunman shoots policeman outside N Irish school

BELFAST, 9 NOV — A gunman shot and wounded an off-duty police officer on Thursday as he dropped his child off at a school in Northern Ireland.

Politicians blamed dissident guerillas for the shooting which coincided with the 20th anniversary of a paramilitary bomb in

which 12 people died and as politicians marked six months since they formed a ground-breaking power-sharing assembly.

"Six months ago today we took power back into the hands of local people," the province's cross-party governing executive, whose various members both support

and oppose British sovereignty, said in a joint statement.

Three decades of conflict that killed more than 3,600 people largely ended with a 1998 peace deal but there is sporadic violence despite political stability ushered in by the new administration earlier this year.—MNA/Reuters

Roadside bomb kills six policemen in western Iraq

FALLUJAH, 9 Nov — A roadside bomb detonated near a police commando patrol in north of Fallujah City in Anbar Province on Thursday, killing six policemen, including two senior police officers, a provincial police source said. "Colonel Sabah al-

Lihaibi, commander of the provincial emergency forces, and Lieutenant-Colonel Mudher al-Lihaibi, chief of the al-Walid police station were killed when a roadside bomb struck their vehicle in the Garma area, north of Fallujah," the source told Xinhua on

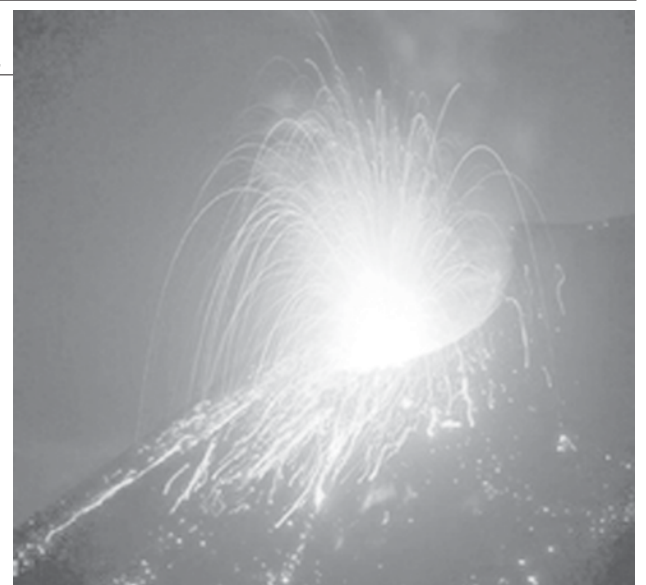
condition of anonymity.

Four policemen were also killed and another four wounded in the blast, the source said.

US and Iraqi security forces cordoned off the area, while ambulances transported the victims to a nearby hospital, he added.—MNA/Xinhua

The Anak Krakatau (Child of Krakatau) volcano sends up powerful clouds of hot gasses rocks, and lava on 8 Nov, 2007, in the Sunda Straits between Java and Sumatra, Indonesia.

INTERNET



USDA helping create prosperous future of the motherland

Kyi Win Nyunt

Myanmar is like a large garden in which various species of flowering plants are in full bloom. Myanmar is rich in cultural heritage, archaeological edifices and natural resources along with scenic natural beauties. National races of the Union are polite, gentle and friendly. From time immemorial, national brethren have been living through thick and thin in the Union.

Now, the government is shaping the nation into a peaceful, modern and developed democratic one with flourishing discipline. In this regard, it is implementing the democratic processes with momentum in accordance with the State's seven-step Road Map. Ensuring perpetuation of the new democratic nation calls for stability of the State, community peace and national unity, prevalence of law and order, along with high thinking power and a wide knowledge of the people.

To fulfil these requirements, the government is now building foundations for promotion of the nation's education standard. It is also making educational reforms to be able to keep abreast of international level. It trains and nurtures the youth of the nation in various sectors to enhance their educational qualifications and cognitive improvement.

Qualifications, morale, habits and character of the youth decide the future of the nation and the people, good or bad. The youth are the future of the nation and a fundamental force for development of human resources. So, the government has founded the Union Solidarity and Development Association as a strong national force in the national interests, mobilizing the strength of younger generation. The association came into being on 15 September 1993 with those who love the motherland and own lineage, who want to build national unity, who favour prevalence of law and order and community peace, and those who preserve and safeguard cultural heritage.

So far, 17 state and division level associations, 66 district level associations, 320 township level

associations, and 15,334 ward and village level associations have been formed. The total membership of the USDA is 24.5 million.

During the 14-year existence of the Association, members are serving the interests of the nation and the people by doing their bit through common views, concepts and procedures. In particular, they are participating in the processes of transition to democracy and are constantly vigilant against possible dangers to the nation's peace and stability.

The associations and members at all levels are engaged in community welfare services and nation-building tasks in various sectors, thus winning friendship, trust and recognition of local people of the regions concerned. Now, they have achieved greater success due to the participation of local people.

The nation is enjoying all-round development thanks to farsighted leadership, correct policies, practical methods and good volition in implementing the tasks.

Members are playing an active role in the education, health, social affairs, regional development, rural power supply and promotion of rural education.

Now, the government is implementing constantly the national education promotion plans. Owing to extensive opening of basic education schools and post-primary schools, the number of basic education schools has increased to more than 40,000, and there more than seven million students are pursuing education. Over 700,000 students are pursuing higher education at 156 colleges and universities.

Knowledge has influence over any other sector and can help create a prosperous future of a nation. The people are broadening their horizons, and working hard for development of human society through the knowledge they have gained.

In pursuit of the goal 'Education for All', the government is encouraging formal education, non-formal education and informal education, in order that the people, irrespective of age and educational qualification, can make a life-long study.

The government is extensively building education infrastructures and producing a growing number of teachers so that every citizen has an equal access to education. In the process, wellwishers and volunteers including USDA members contribute services, and cash and kind.

In the education sector, members are taking part in the measures for enrolment of all school-age children, opening evening schools and providing cash and kind to the classes and reading sessions, and awarding outstanding students.

Similarly, the associations are providing desks, school textbooks, stationery, school uniforms, stipends and sports equipment for basic education schools in the regions concerned.

Members of the USDA, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association are extending a helping hand to ensure enrolment of all school-age children. They provide school uniforms and school textbooks to the students and school expenses to some needy students. As a result, the enrolment rate at the primary level rose to more than 97 per cent in 2007.

After 1988, follow-up literacy campaigns and three "Rs" courses for adults were conducted to achieve cent per cent literacy rate. In 2007, the literacy rate went up to 94.75 per cent.

The government is opening more and more community learning centres and self-reliant village libraries to enable those who have become literate to carry out post-literacy activities and to continue learning. So far, 55,717 self-reliant village libraries have been opened. So, rural people have enjoyed easy access to a wide range of publications.

The USDA is a national force formed to serve the interests of the nation and the people. Young members are actively taking part in nation-building tasks and national politics.

Members also contribute towards the opening of rural libraries, rural health care centres and creek-spanning bridges, providing foodstuff, medicines and water-purifying machines to prisons, and donating blood to hospitals. In cooperation with wellwishers and congenial organizations, they contribute their services to evacuating victims of floods and strong winds and provide cash and household utensils to the victims.

Upholding these fine traditions coupled with good morale, good habits and the strength of members of younger generations, the Association will be able to make contribution towards the implementation of the national goal of building a peaceful, modern and developed nation with discipline-flourishing democracy. With firm consolidation and strength of the members, the Association will help create a prosperous future of the nation.

Translation: MS
Kyemon: 10-11-2007

Now, the government is shaping the nation into a peaceful, modern and developed democratic one with flourishing discipline. In this regard, it is implementing the democratic processes with momentum in accordance with the State's seven-step Road Map. Ensuring perpetuation of the new democratic nation calls for stability of the State, community peace and national unity, prevalence of law and order, along with high thinking power and a wide knowledge of the people.

Myanmar very grateful to Laos for regional, international support Laos always opposes any outside interference in Myanmar's internal affairs

Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets Laotian counterpart



Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets with Lao PDR Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh at Prime Minister's Office. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Accompanied by the Minister of Industry and Commerce of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the visiting Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein left the Government Guest House in a motorcade and arrived at the Prime Minister's Office in Vientiane at 2.20 pm on 8 November. They were welcomed there by Prime Minister of Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh. Next, the two Prime Ministers held a meeting.

Together with Prime Minister General Thein Sein were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Myanmar Ambassador to Lao PDR U Nyunt Hlaing, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin and departmental heads. Together with the Laotian Prime Minister were Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulit, Minister of Industry and Commerce Mr Nam Vinhaket and Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kouily A Souphaket and officials.

Speaking on the occasion Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh said on behalf of the Laotian Government, he would like to say he was honoured that the Myanmar delegation was visiting the country. He noted that the very first visit as Myanmar's Prime Minister has shown the cemented friendship between the two nations.

He said he believed the goodwill visit reflects mutual understanding, trust and mutual help between the two nations although it is a short one.

Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein said the Myanmar delegation was on a goodwill visit with the belief that the visit will further cement the amity and promote economic cooperation between the two nations.

Lao PDR is a neighboring country sharing over 146 miles of borders with Myanmar. It is also a good neighbour of Myanmar. Moreover, both nations have had amity and close cooperation since ancient times. Myanmar is very grateful to Lao PDR for its support for the country not only in the region but also in the international sphere. He said he believed that Lao PDR would continue to support Myanmar.

He said it is heartening to see Lao PDR developing due to cooperative efforts of its government and the people. Myanmar is also striving for ensuring stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, economic growth and development of human resources.

Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein presented latest developments of Myanmar. He explained matters related to progress in implementation of the seven-step Road Map, some Western powers' interference in Myanmar's internal affairs, mass rallies being held by the national people across the nation in support of the Road Map, the desire of the people not to accept any unrest and violence and the cooperation between the UN and Myanmar.

The Laotian Prime Minister said he was very glad to know the prevailing conditions of Myanmar. He said that it reflects mutual trust, friendship and understanding between the two governments and two peoples. He said he understood the Myanmar government for its goodwill efforts for ensuring peace and stability of the State. Lao PDR acknowledged the seven-step Road Map of the State, the process of democratic reforms. Myanmar's internal affairs must be addressed only by Myanmar people. Lao PDR will always oppose any outside interference in Myanmar's internal affairs. The policy of not interfering in others' internal affairs by a country

must be always upheld, he added.

Then, Prime Minister General Thein Sein expressed thanks for his cordial and open discussions. He noted that by holding meetings often and seeking ways and means, there will be rapid work progress and no problems between the two nations.

He went on to say that the recent disturbances in Myanmar did not happen immediately. They were created to coincide with the UN Assembly. It has been fabricated that the Myanmar issue is likely to threaten the regional peace and security. As this is the internal issue of Myanmar, it can be addressed only in the country.

Later, the two Prime Ministers cordially discussed mutual cooperation in various sectors, implementation of accords of the eighth meeting of the joint-commission, construction of Mekong Bridge, use of more check points in Wanpon and Mongmaw border regions, communication of Luang Prabang and Bagan sister cities, visa exemption for those holding ordinary passports, CLMV and GMS cooperation and ASEAN Charter.

MNA

Respects to be paid to retired teachers

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Myanmar BAGsc Degree Holders Association will organize the ninth ceremony to pay respects to the retired teachers of Nay Pyi Taw Yezin University of Agriculture will be held at Diamond Jubilee Hall of

the university on 2 February 2008. Those wishing to attend the ceremony may make cash donations through the managers of the respective state, division, district and township Myanmar Agriculture Services.

MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein arrives in Lao PDR to pay goodwill visit



Prime Minister General Thein Sein and Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh take the salute of Guard of Honour. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—A Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein left here by special flight at 9 am on 8 November to pay goodwill visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic at the invitation of Lao PDR Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh and to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the invitation of SRV Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha,

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Director-General Col Thant Shin of the Government Office and

departmental heads.

On arrival at Wattay International Airport of Lao PDR at 11.10 am Lao Standard

Time, Myanmar Ambassador to LPDR U Nyunt Hlaing and Head of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs of Laos Mr Vieng Louang Boupha welcomed the Prime Minister and party aboard the aircraft.

The Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein was welcomed at the (See page 11)

Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets staff of Myanmar Embassy in Lao PDR

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein on 8 November met Myanmar Ambassador to Lao PDR U Nyunt Hlaing and wife Daw Nan Aye San, staff of Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché's Office and their families at the Government Guest House in Vientiane.

At the meeting, Prime

Minister General Thein Sein said that he would like to inform recent disturbances in Yangon and Mandalay, adding that the incidents occurred due to the instigation and collusion of some foreign countries and internal anti-government groups that are desirous of getting their lackeys come to power.

He said that some

superpowers exaggerated the incident as if the country poses a threat to the international community and the region.

At present, the situation in Myanmar is back to normal with prevalence of peace and stability. People of the states and divisions who long for the emergence of an enduring State constitution are holding

mass rallies expressing their desire, he said.

He noted that the government upholding Our Three Main National Causes will continue striving for building a democratic nation aspired by the people.

The Prime Minister spoke of the need for embassy staff to strictly abide by the law, rules

and regulations of countries in which they are assigned duties and to promote the dignity of own nation and people with patriotism and the spirit of unity.

Next, the Prime Minister presented gifts to officials of Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché's Office and embassy staff.

MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein meets staff of Myanmar Embassy and office of the Military Attaché's Office. — MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein visits That Lvang Pagoda in Vientiane City. — MNA

Government thanks Laos for support and understanding Myanmar's prevailing conditions

Prime Minister General Thein Sein

Prime Minister General Thein Sein's visit will further strengthen Laos-Myanmar goodwill relations

Laotian President Mr Choummaly Sayasone

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein called on President of Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Choummaly Sayasone at the Presidential Palace in Vientiane on 8 November.

Present at the call were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Myanmar Ambassador to LPDR U Nyunt Hlaing, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin and heads of departments.

The President of Lao People's Democratic Republic was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulit, Minister at the President Office Mr Soubanh Srithirath, Minister for Industry and Commerce Mr Nam Vinhaket, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Hiem Phommachan, Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kouily A Souphakhet and senior officials.

In his discussion, President Mr Choummaly Sayasone stressed Myanmar Prime

Minister's visit that will further strengthen Laos-Myanmar goodwill relations. The president said he noticed the developments in Myanmar under the leadership of the State Peace and Development Council as he had been to Myanmar many times. Fruitful results will be produced as bilateral issues are discussed through mutual coordination. He said Laos always supports Myanmar both in ASEAN and in the UN. He also said Prime Minister General Thein Sein and his Laotian counterpart had exchanged views on bilateral issues and regional and ASEAN affairs.

The Laotian

President said his country suffered much under the rule of imperialists. He said the country is still facing the problem of clearing of land mines.

He reaffirmed that Laotian government and the people will support the processes of Myanmar government and its people to build a democratic nation.

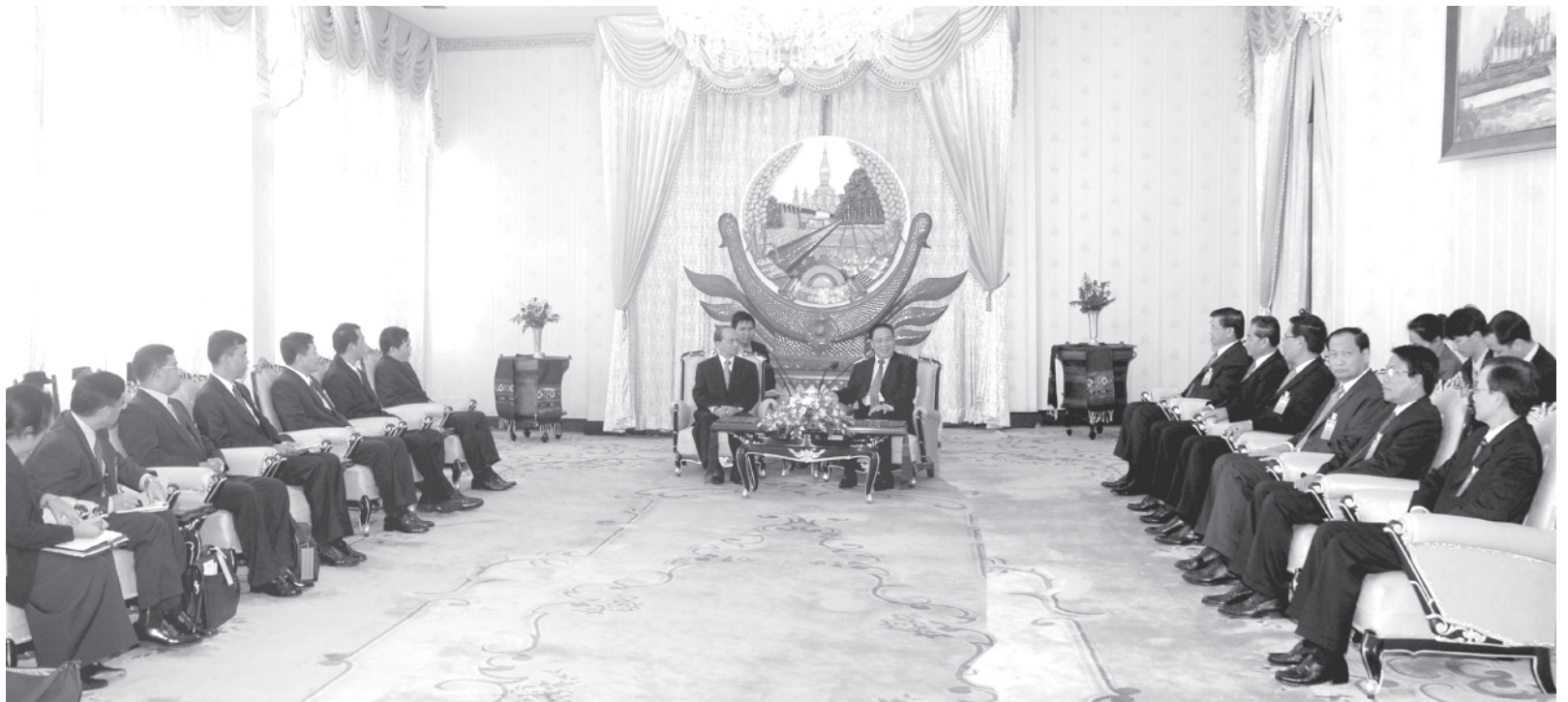
Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein extended greetings. He said he thanked the President for his support and understanding Myanmar's prevailing

conditions as a neighbouring country.

He said the government has been implementing tasks step by step after laying down the seven-step Road Map for emergence of a democratic nation. After the successful holding of the National Convention, fundamental principles and detailed basic principles have been laid down. As the second step, necessary processes have also been carried out. Now drafting of a new constitution is the third step, he said.

(See page 11)

Prime Minister General Thein Sein shakes hands with Laotian President Mr Choummaly Sayasone. — MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein calls on Laotian President Mr Choummaly Sayasone. — MNA



Prime Minister General Thein Sein and party enjoy performance of Laotian cultural troupe at the dinner hosted by Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh. — MNA

Laotian Prime Minister hosts dinner in honour of Myanmar delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh on 8 November received members of a Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein at the Party Central Banquet Hall in Vientiane.

Present together with Prime Minister General Thein Sein were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha,

Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Myanmar Ambassador to the Lao PDR U Nyunt Hlaing, Director-General of the Government Office Col Thant Shin and departmental heads. Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Thongloun Sisoulit, Minister of Industry and Commerce Mr Nam Vinhaket, Laotian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kouily A Souphakhet and officials.

After the meeting, the two prime ministers exchanged gifts, and Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh hosted a dinner in honour of the Myanmar delegation at the Party Central Banquet Hall.

At the dinner, Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh extended greetings.

Before and during the dinner, members of Laotian cultural troupe entertained those present on the occasion with dance and songs.

Next, Prime Minister General Thein

Sein and his Laotian counterpart presented flower baskets to members of the cultural troupe.

Later, the Laotian Prime Minister, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and party had a

documentary photo taken together with members of the cultural troupe.

MNA

Government thanks Laos for...

(from page 10)

Commission for Drafting State Constitution had been formed with legal experts.

He said though the government is making efforts for emergence of a democratic nation, some big nations are hindering the democracy processes under the pretext of democracy and human rights.

He said if western nations really wanted to introduce democracy to Myanmar they should support the step-by-step implementation of seven-step Road Map for introduction of democracy to Myanmar. Sanctions imposed on tourism industry and foreign investment affected the majority of the people. If the western nations respect human rights and humanitarianism they should not do such act. Western media ignored

and failed to report the support of millions of people in seven states and seven divisions who supported the implementation of the government's seven-step Road Map. Western news agencies did not report the fact that the people from 325 townships in the country expressed their wish every day to denounce the recent protests, he said.

He said the processes are being carried out with care as there are examples in which hasty democratic reforms generate hardships.

He also of conveyed best wishes of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe to the LPDR President.

Next, the Laotian President expressed thanks for detailed clarification about the developments in Myanmar. He said Laos and its people support the

seven-step Road Map for building a democratic nation. He spoke of the need to seek solutions on bilateral and regional issues through coordination. He wished Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and Myanmar people health and happiness.

Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein visited That Lvang Pagoda in Vientiane. Prime Minister General Thein Sein offered flowers and lights to the pagoda. A member of the pagoda board of trustees explained the history of the pagoda to them.

The Prime Minister signed in the visitors' book and donated cash to the pagoda.

Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein returned to the State guest house. — MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein...

(from page 9)

airport by Laos Minister for Industry and Commerce Mr Nam Vinhaket, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Hiem Phommachan, Laos Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Kouily A Souphakhet and officials, Myanmar Ambassador U Nyunt Hlaing and wife Daw Nang Aye San, Military Attaché Brig-Gen Than Win and wife Daw Mya Mya San, staff and family members of the Myanmar Embassy and the Military Attaché's Office.

A Myanmar girl presented a bouquet to Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Accompanied by Laos Minister for Industry and Commerce Mr Nam Vinhaket and officials, the Myanmar Prime Minister and party arrived at National Parliament Square. They welcomed

there by Lao Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh.

A Laotian girl presented a bouquet to Prime Minister General Thein Sein. A ceremony to welcome the Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein took place at the National Parliament Building. Prime Minister General Thein Sein and Laos Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh took the salute of the Guard of Honour. The State Band played the national anthems of Myanmar and Lao PDR.

The two Prime Ministers inspected the Guard of Honour. Next, Laos Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh introduced Laos Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulit,

ministers, members of the National Parliament, deputy ministers, military and police senior officers, MPs and high-ranking officials to Prime Minister General Thein Sein.

Likewise, Prime Minister General Thein Sein introduced his delegation members to the Laos Prime Minister. Next, the Myanmar delegation left for the Government Guest House.

At 2 pm, the Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by the Laos Deputy Minister for Industry and Commerce, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Vientiane Vice-Mayor, the Laos Ambassador to Myanmar, the Myanmar Ambassador to Lao PDR and officials, laid a wreath at the Memorial to Fallen Heroes in Vientiane. — MNA

China donates lab apparatus to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Nov—The Agriculture Department of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China presented 269 items of laboratory equipment worth 600,000 yuan to Lashio and Myitkyina veterinary diseases control laboratories through Myanmar Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department at a ceremony held at Shwe Thiri Hotel in Muse, Shan State (North) on 8 November morning.

Muse District Peace and

Development Council Chairman U Kyi Win extended greetings.

Director-General U Maung Maung Nyunt of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department spoke words of thanks.

Deputy Director-General of the Agriculture Department of Yunnan Province Mr Zhang Zejum explained the purpose of the donation.

U Maung Maung Nyunt and Mr Zhang Zejum signed the agreement. — MNA

Vietnam might remove tariffs on paper materials

HANOI, 9 Nov — Vietnam might impose zero import tax on materials for paper production, including pulp and waste paper, in the near future, according to the Vietnam Pulp and Paper Association on Friday.

Seeing rising prices of imported paper materials due to thinner supplies in North America and Europe, the Market Management Bureau under the Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade has proposed the Ministry of Finance slash import taxes on pulp and

waste paper to zero per cent from current one percent and 3 per cent, respectively.

Vietnam currently has some 300 paper makers, and a few pulp producers whose production meets only 37 per cent of the domestic demand for pulp, the association said, noting that it has to import 130,000-150,000 tons of the material each year.

This year, Vietnam is predicted to manufacture 1.13 million tons of paper of different kinds, including letter, printing and packaging paper, and

import of 914,500 tons of paper, mainly complicated kinds of the product, according to the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Vietnam imported 688,000 tons of paper worth 491 million US dollars in the first 10 months of this year, posting respective year-on-year rises of 16.3 per cent and 23.5 per cent, said association.

MNA/Xinhua



Cars line up at the pumps of the GetGo gas station in Warrensville Heights, Ohio, where the price of a gallon of unleaded regular gasoline is \$3.09, on 7 Nov, 2007. The national average price of a gallon of gas rose 1.9 cents overnight to \$3.043, according to AAA and the Oil Price Information Service. Prices are up nearly 29 cents since mid-October and are 85 cents higher than a year ago.—INTERNET

Lithuania nuclear plant shut down after short circuit

VILNIUS, 9 Nov — Lithuania's Soviet-built nuclear power station was shut down on Thursday due to an electrical malfunction but there was no danger of any radiation, officials said.

The Ignalina nuclear plant has the same type of reactors as those which caused the 1986 Chernobyl disaster,

though Lithuania says its plant was made safer. It shut one reactor after joining the European Union and the other is due to be closed in 2009.

"There is no danger," said Andrius Baltuska, a civil protection official with Utenos district in eastern Lithuania, home to the power plant.

He said a short circuit

had shut down a generator, which had closed the whole plant.

News portal Delfi quoted Valdis Arbaciauskas, head of Ignalina's supply department, as saying that there had been no change in radiation levels and that the plant was likely to be

closed for up to three days.

Lithuania has agreed to close the Ignalina plant under the terms of its entry to the European Union. Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Poland are considering building a new plant to decrease their energy dependency on Russia.—MNA/Reuters

Bomb attacks kill four, wound five in Thailand

YALA, (Thailand), 9 Nov—Suspected separatist rebels launched two bomb attacks in Thailand's rebellious Muslim south, killing four people and wounding five, including a Muslim boy, police said on Wednesday.

Three members of a bomb squad were killed and one wounded when they went to check out what turned out to be a remote-controlled bomb on a bridge in Pattani, one of the provinces caught up in nearly four years of insurgency.

In the nearby province of Yala, a roadside bomb killed an Army captain, wounded two soldiers and a Muslim father with his five-year-old son.

More than 2,600 people have been killed in the insurgency and attacks continued to rise in November, after surging in October following a relative lull the previous month during the Muslim fasting period of Ramadan, researcher Srisompob Jitpiromsri of Prince of Songkhla University in Pattani said.

On Tuesday, a powerful bomb hidden at a market food stall frequented by Buddhists wounded 22 people in

Yala, capital of the province of the same name, while two Buddhist teachers were shot dead in an ambush in Narathiwat province on their way home.

MNA/Reuters



A gold dust collector, waits in front of a gold factory in the eastern Indian city of Kolkata on 6 Nov, 2007. For centuries, the city's band of more than 200 gold scavengers, or "Kadaiwallahs", have eked out a living by panning out gold dust.—INTERNET

Hangzhou ranked China's "happiest city"

BEIJING, 10 Nov — If you are seeking happiness in China, Hangzhou is the place to go as the capital of Zhejiang Province topped a magazine poll of more than 3 million citizens rating the country's "10 happiest cities".

Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoning Province, finished runner-up in the poll conducted by *Oriental Outlook* magazine, followed by the Zhejiang Province cities of Ningbo and Taizhou. Zhuhai and Zhongshan, both in south China's Guangdong Province, were fifth and sixth, respectively. Qingdao, in eastern Shandong Province, was seventh.

Shanghai, the country's commercial hub, ranked eighth, followed by the national capital Beijing. Chengdu, capital of southwestern Sichuan Province, rounded out the list.

The poll conducted by the Shanghai-based magazine was carried out in early November under the administration of the *Xinhua* news agency, the China Association of Mayors and the China Population Welfare Foundation. It asked people to name the city where it was easiest to get a sense of happiness.

MNA/Xinhua

Experts say 20 mln kidney patients living in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 9 Nov — Over 20 million kidney patients are now in Bangladesh and the number of such patients is growing, experts said at a technical session of a conference in Dhaka on Thursday.

The conference was organized by Bangladesh Kidney Foundation, a private kidney treatment hospital. Experts from home and abroad attended the conference.

Dr Harun-ar-Rashid, chairman of the kidney

department of Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University, said the number of kidney patients was eight million in Bangladesh 10 years ago, but now the number is 20 million.

He said nephritis, diabetes and high blood pressure cause the kidney disease. Kidneys of 40 per cent of the patients become inoperative due to nephritis, 24 per cent by diabetes and 15 per cent by high blood pressure in Bangladesh.

It was learnt that Kidney Foundation alone transplanted 47 kidneys on patients during the past one year ending on September 3 this year.

Harun said poor patients cannot afford kidney transplantation as it is very costly.

Moreover, availability of kidney is more difficult. Except the nearest relatives, nobody wants to donate kidney.

MNA/Xinhua

China performing well in combating AIDS, TB, malaria

BEIJING, 10 Nov — China has made remarkable achievements in combating AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, said a French doctor specializing in infectious diseases.

Michel Kazatchkine, executive director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, said it had so far donated 424 million US dollars to support China's fight against the three diseases.

China is the fund's second largest beneficiary and one of the best performers in its global campaign, said the Harvard-educated doctor.

At present, China operates 10 programmes in 30 provinces under the support of the Global Fund.

Kazatchkine said the two parties had carried out effective cooperation in combating AIDS through educating

young people and in providing prevention methods for drug addicts and commercial sex workers.

As a populous developing country, China faces challenges posed by the three diseases along with the rest of the world, Vice-Health Minister Huang Jiefu said. He added the government attached much importance and made great investment to the prevention of the three diseases.

China has over the past five years invested 10 million US dollars into the Global Fund.

Huang said a five-year cooperation programme is to be carried out between China and the Global Fund to help non-governmental organizations improve their organizational capacity.

MNA/Xinhua

WHO warns TB disaster possible without action

CAPE TOWN, 9 Nov — The world is at risk of a tuberculosis crisis if killer drug-resistant strains of the disease are not contained, a senior World Health Organisation official warned on Thursday.

“Scenarios of apocalyptic nature are not, let's say, likely, but they might happen. They are not... impossible,” said Mario Raviglione, director of the World Health Organization's Stop TB department.

“Globally speaking about 96 per cent of all TB cases are still treatable with the four drugs that

we use in the standard regimen, 4 per cent are multi-drug resistant ... but the worst case scenario is when this 4 per cent becomes 50, 60, 70, 80 per cent,” he told reporters at a conference in Cape Town.

Raviglione said a worst case scenario would see multi and extensively drug resistant TB overtake cases of ordinary TB, which can still be cured with older but effective drugs.

Multi- and extensively drug-resistant TB (MDR-TB and XDR-TB) are mutations of common TB virtually immune to

all treatments. Raviglione said some countries in the former Soviet Union were showing an MDR-TB incidence of up to 20 per cent, while some European states showed resistance to all second-line TB drugs — the most powerful in an increasingly ineffective drug arsenal.

Outlining the seriousness of the emerging drug resistance, Raviglione said the situation in some European countries reminded health officials of the “pre-antibiotic era” of 1943.

MNA/Reuters

Interpol issues warning over drug trafficking through Internet

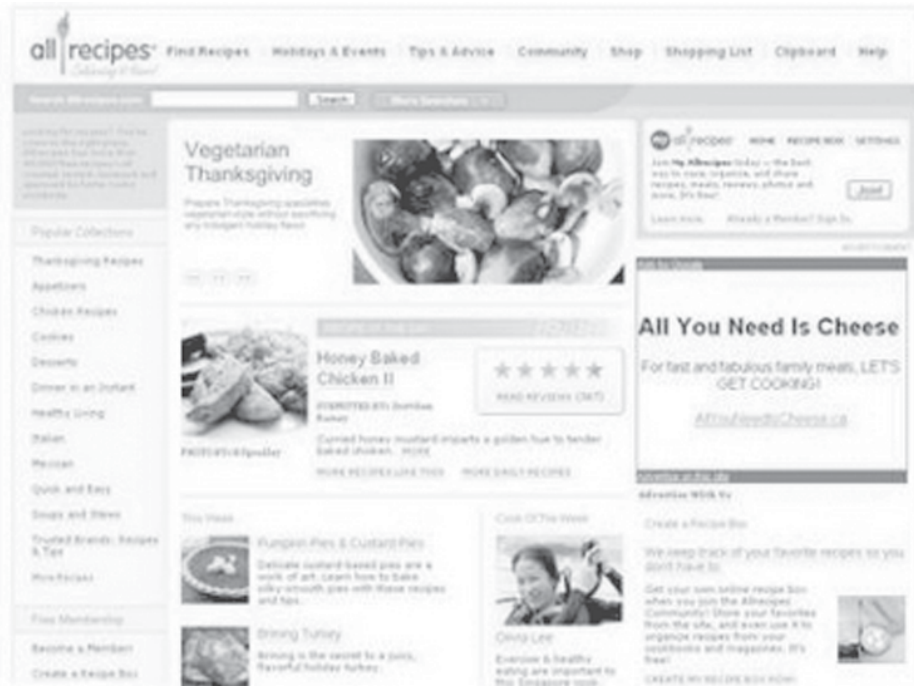
RABAT, 9 Nov — The use of Internet for drug trafficking is a rising phenomenon lately, Emmanuel Leclaire, an official of criminal organizations and narcotic department of the International Police, said Wednesday.

“The Interpol has set up an awareness project for police services against this kind of trafficking, and established special units to this effect,” he said during the opening of the 76th Interpol general assembly in the Moroccan city of Marrakech.

Leclaire said even if the Internet is a simple communication tool between drug suppliers and consumers, it enhances the risk of massive distribution of drugs. He said Interpol general assembly is currently working on policies aimed at curbing narcotics at the national level and in the world.

The 76th Interpol general assembly is attended by nearly 600 delegates from 145 member countries.

MNA/Xinhua



A screenshot of AllRecipes.com, taken on 8 Nov, 2007. Finding fellow gourmands, good restaurants and exotic dishes is becoming easier on the Internet, as Web sites focused on eating well and discovering new flavors become must-have destinations for food lovers. — INTERNET

Flood alerts issued due to North Sea tidal surge

LONDON, 9 Nov — Large parts of Britain's Norfolk and Kent coasts are at risk of severe flooding from a tidal surge in the North Sea, the government and environment agencies warned on Thursday.

Weather experts invoked images of the major floods of 1953 that hit eastern England and the Netherlands, and said the Dutch and German coasts were again at high risk from the storm surge coupled with spring tides and low pressure.

“A tidal surge of up to

three metres is making its way down the North Sea which could coincide with high tides,” Environment Secretary Hilary Benn told the House of Commons.

A special COBRA Cabinet Office meeting was being held by Prime Minister Gordon Brown to coordinate the emergency response, a spokeswoman said.

The Environment Agency issued seven severe flood warnings around Great Yarmouth in East Anglia for the surge which is expected to peak at between around 7 am on Friday.

It said 8,000 properties in Great Yarmouth and 1,800 in Lowestoft were at risk on its worst case forecast.

MNA/Reuters

China, India growth force climate change action

LONDON, 9 Nov — The International Energy Agency on Wednesday painted a grim picture of a tough and urgent global challenge to avoid the “alarming” climate change implications of soaring energy demand in China and India.

The report suggested that restricting global climate change within safe limits, as defined by the European Union, may be out of reach, at least at an affordable price.

The IEA's influential World Energy Outlook

was published less than a month before nearly 200 countries meet in Bali, Indonesia, to try to launch two-year talks on a new, global deal to fight climate change.

“There has so far been more talk than action in most countries,” the IEA said.

“The consequences for China, India, the OECD (industrialized nations) and the rest of the world of unfettered growth in global energy demand are, however, alarming.”

MNA/Reuters



This picture received on 6 Nov, 2007 from Sparsh Hospital, shows Indian girl Lakshmi (R) who was born with eight limbs sitting in her mother's lap at a hospital in Bangalore. The girl regained consciousness on Friday, two days after undergoing a gruelling 27-hour operation in a Bangalore hospital. INTERNET

SPORTS

Bochum rise to 12th after beating Duisburg 2-0

BERLIN, 10 Nov — Daniel Imhof and Tommy Bechmann scored in each half to lead VfL Bochum to a 2-0 victory over MSV Duisburg in a Bundesliga match on Friday. Bochum climbed away from the relegation zone with their second straight victory, rising to 12th, while Duisburg's fifth straight home defeat left them in 17th with nine points from 13 matches.

Imhof put Bochum in front in the 29th minute of an entertaining match, tapping in a cross from Stanislav Sestak after Duisburg goalkeeper Tom Starke got caught out on the left. Duisburg pressed for the equalizer and controlled much of the game after that but Bechmann doubled Bochum's lead six minutes from time, heading in a cross from Sestak.— *MNA/Reuters*



LASK Linz's Ivica Vastic (L) is challenged by Red Bull Salzburg's Ezequiel Carboni during their Austrian League soccer match in Linz on 9 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET

Becks back for England Ex-skipper back, but current captain injured



David Beckham

Beckham has sat out England's last four qualifiers due to a knee injury, but is back in Steve McClaren's plans for the upcoming games.

But while the Los Angeles Galaxy midfielder is included in the squad, Chelsea centre-half Terry has yet to recover from his own knee problem.

McClaren, therefore, will be without his first-choice central defensive pairing for the 21st November qualifier with Croatia at Wembley as Rio Ferdinand is suspended.

Gary Neville is still missing for England after suffering a setback in his recovery from a calf problem, but Ashley Cole is back in the squad after injury.

Owen Hargreaves returns to boost McClaren's midfield options after proving his fitness for Manchester United in recent weeks.

Up front, Michael Owen and Peter Crouch are likely to lead the line for the game against Croatia, with Emile Heskey still sidelined with a metatarsal injury and Wayne Rooney picking up an ankle injury.

England's qualification hopes for next summer's tournament in Austria and Switzerland hinge on Russia slipping up against Israel on 17th November.

If Russia win in Israel, then England are likely to miss out on a place in a major finals for the first time since watching the 1994 World Cup from afar.

Prior to the qualifier with Croatia at Wembley, England face Euro 2008 co-hosts Austria in Vienna on Friday 16th November.

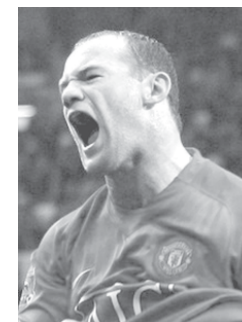
Internet



Singapore's Aleksandar Duric (C) scores his second goal as Tajikistan goalkeeper Aleksandr Mukanin falls to the ground during their first leg 2010 FIFA World Cup Asian Zone Qualifying Tournament second round soccer match in Singapore on 9 Nov, 2007.—INTERNET

Rooney suffers injury blow England striker ruled out of Croatia clash

LONDON, 9 Nov — Wayne Rooney is facing four weeks on the sidelines after suffering an ankle injury in training. The Manchester United striker will now miss England's final Euro 2008 qualifier against Croatia at Wembley on 21st November.

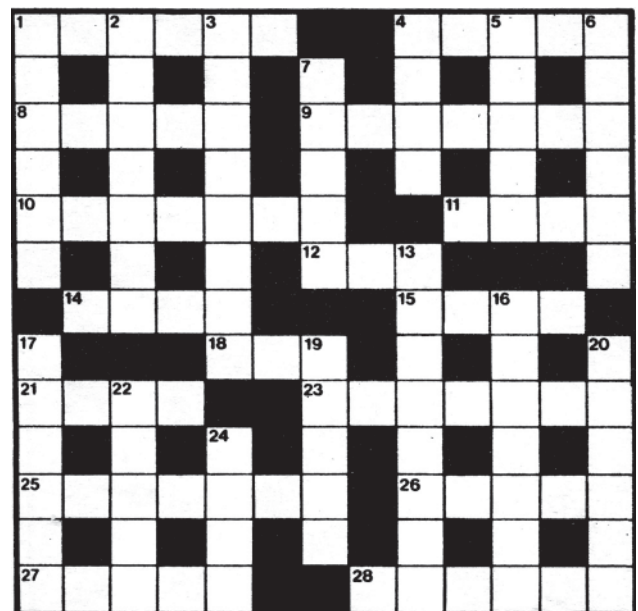


Wayne Rooney

A club spokesman said: "Wayne Rooney picked up an ankle injury in training and will be out for about four weeks."

The 22-year-old has been in superb form recently, forming an impressive partnership with Carlos Tevez, and was named the Barclays Player of the Month for October. England boss Steve McClaren will now have to re-think his striking options against Croatia and the preceding friendly with Austria with Peter Crouch and Jermain Defoe in contention to partner Michael Owen.—*Internet*

CROSSWORDS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Bland
- 4 Cinque Port
- 8 Milk product
- 9 Very young child
- 10 Illustration
- 11 Healthy
- 12 Farm animal
- 14 Part of the eye
- 15 Irritation
- 18 Sleep(sl.)
- 21 English composer
- 23 Erudite
- 25 Gather
- 26 Concise
- 27 Seaside golf course
- 28 Wild cat

DOWN

- 1 Withdraw
- 2 Outdoor (4, 3)
- 3 It's a mark (anag.)
- 4 Extinct bird
- 5 Worth
- 6 Seldom
- 7 Perplex
- 13 Enormous
- 16 Manipulate
- 17 Package
- 19 Small planet
- 20 An arrival
- 22 Synthetic material
- 24 Minus

Man United agree to buy 14-year-old from Burnley

LONDON, 10 Nov — Manchester United have agreed terms with Burnley to sign 14-year-old striker John Cofie, the Championship (second division) club said on Friday.

The struggling Lancashire team, who parted company with manager Steve Cotterill on Thursday, reported the transfer on their Web site (www.burnleyfootballclub.co.uk).

No fee was given for the English youth international, who local media reported had signed a six-year deal, but British newspapers said earlier this week that Burnley hoped to receive one million pounds (2.11 million US dollars) in compensation.

The second division side said they had negotiated a 25-per-cent sell-on clause

for Cofie and have first option on loaning back the player at a later date.

United have also agreed to play a friendly within 12 months of Cofie signing professional terms at Old Trafford.

MNA/Reuters

Chelsea rule out Terry for 2 more weeks

LONDON, 10 Nov — England captain John Terry will be out of action for two more weeks as he recovers from a knee operation, Chelsea manager Avram Grant said on Friday.

The central defender

was earlier omitted from the England squad for their final Euro 2008 qualifier against Croatia at Wembley Stadium on 21 November.

"It was the right decision to leave him out of the England squad," Grant told reporters.

"I spoke with (England manager) Steve McClaren. I have been a national manager and if he was available I would be very happy for him to play but he's not fit yet.

"Maybe in two weeks he will be fit. And we need to take care of him. He always gave his body for Chelsea and the national team and now we need to take care of him because he's had a lot of injuries and I hope this is the last one." — *MNA/Reuters*

Tennis player Maria Sharapova, from Russia, celebrates after beating Ana Ivanovic, from Serbia, during the Sony Ericsson Championships match in Madrid, on 9 Nov, 2007. Sharapova won 6-1, 6-2. INTERNET



Families flee tidal flood in Britain

LONDON, 10 Nov — Police urged thousands of British families to leave their homes on Friday as the Norfolk and Kent coasts braced for severe flooding from a tidal surge in the North Sea.

Police went door to door to urge residents of 7,500 homes in Norfolk, on the east coast of England, to leave, or if they have nowhere to go, to move onto upper floors and lock their doors.

Hundreds of families moved into school buildings where local authorities said they had room for 3,500 people. Highways and railways to the town of Great Yarmouth were closed. More than 200 elderly residents were evacuated from care homes.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown held a pre-dawn meeting of COBRA,

the government's top emergency committee, hours before the tidal flood was expected to strike.

"Officers knocking on doors are giving (people) advice to leave their homes and move in with friends and family outside the affected area," a Norfolk police spokeswoman said. "We are urging the public not to panic."

Weather experts invoked images of the major floods of 1953 that hit eastern England and the Netherlands, and said the Dutch and German coasts were again also at high risk from the storm surge

coupled with spring tides and low pressure.

In Great Yarmouth, a small number of surfers in wet suits were out trying to catch a wave as sun rose above the beach.

The Environment

Agency issued eight severe flood warnings around Great Yarmouth in East Anglia for the surge, expected to peak between 7:00 and 8:00 a.m. on Friday.

MNA/Reuters

China coal mine gas leak kills 32

BEIJING, 10 Nov — Thirty-two miners were killed in a coal mine gas leak in southwest China's Guizhou Province and three others are missing, state media reported on Friday.

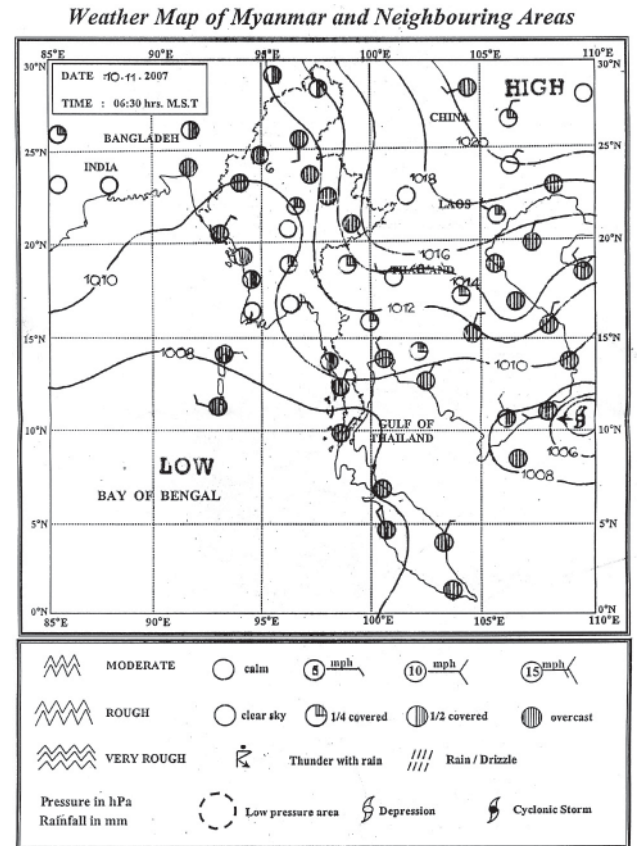
The gas leak at Qunli Coal Mine in Nayong

County occurred on Thursday afternoon when 86 miners were working in the shaft, the official Xinhua news agency quoted rescuers as saying.

The rescuers saved 52 miners, the report said.

There was slim chance for the missing to survive, rescuers were earlier quoted as saying.

The cause of the gas leak was not immediately known.— MNA/Reuters



Boy charged with murdering man found in bonfire in UK

LONDON, 10 Nov — Merseyside police have charged a 13-year-old boy with murdering a man whose body was found in the embers of a bonfire on November 5.

The body of 34-year-

old Stephen Croft was found by police in an area of grassland in Birkenhead.

The boy, who has not been named, has also been charged with robbery. He is due to appear before

magistrates in Birkenhead later on Friday, Merseyside police said.

Two other teenagers, aged 19 and 17, have been released on police bail pending further inquiries.

MNA/Reuters

WEATHER

Saturday, 10 November, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in upper Sagaing Division, isolated in Chin State, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in Shan, Kayah and Kayin States, Magway, Bago and Yangon Divisions, (5°C) below November average temperatures in Taninthayi Division, (5°C) above November average temperatures in Kachin State and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded was Homalin (0.28) inch. The significant night temperatures was Haka (6°C).

Maximum temperature on 9-11-2007 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 10-11-2007 was 66°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 10-11-2007 was 69%. Total sunshine hours on 9-11-2007 was (8.3) hours approx.

Rainfall on 10-11-2007 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (136.46) inches at Mingaladon, (140.75) inches at Kaba-Aye and (144.29) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from North at (12:30) hours MST on 9-11-2007.

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

Special feature: According to the observations at (06:30) hours MST today, yesterday's tropical depression (Peipah) over South China Sea has center at about (240) miles East-Northeast of Hochimin (Vietnam). It is forecast to move West slowly.

Forecast valid until evening of 11-11-2007: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Kachin and Chin States, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, isolated in Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Yangon and Bago Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 11-11-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11-11-2007: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 11-11-2007: Partly cloudy.



Sunday, 11 November
Tune in today

- 8:30 am Brief news
- 8:35 am Music -Right in from of U
- 8:40 am Perspectives
- 8:45 am Music -One
- 8:50 am National news /Slogan
- 9:00 am Music -Never ever
- 9:05 am International news
- 9:10 am Cultural images of Myanmar
- 9:20 am Music -Feel the need in me
- 1:30 pm News /Slogan
- 1:40 pm Children's delight (story) -Punna on the bamboo bridge
- 7:05 pm
- 1:50 pm Songs for children
- 9:00 pm Weekly news review
- 9:10 pm Article
- 9:20 pm Music/LIETS -All woman -Oh baby
- 9:45 pm News /Slogan
- 10:00 pm PEL



Sunday, 11 November
View on today

- 7:00 am
 1. Recitation of parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am
 2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am
 3. Morning news
- 7:40 am
 4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am
 5. ယဉ်ကျေးလိမ္မာ (၃၈) ဖြာမင်္ဂလာ
- 8:10 am
 6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:20 am
 7. ကူးလူးဆက်သွယ်ချစ်ကြီးနွယ် (ကရင်၊မွန်)
- 8:30 am
 8. International news
- 8:45 am
 9. Say it in English
- 11:00 am
 1. Martial song
- 11:10 am
 2. Musical programme

- 11:25 am
 3. Round up of the week's TV local news
- 11:40 am
 4. Myanmar video feature: "ချစ်ဖို့ကောင်းတယ်နော်" (လူမင်း၊ နန္ဒာလှိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကျော်စောလင်း)
- 1:20 pm
 5. (၂၄)ကြိမ်မြောက် အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ အားကစားပြိုင်ပွဲဝင်မည့် မြန်မာအားကစားအဖွဲ့များ၏ ကြိုတင်ပြင်ဆင်မှုများ (မြန်မာအမျိုးသမီး ဘောလုံးအသင်း)
- 1:35 pm
 6. အတီးပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 2:05 pm
 7. Musical programme
- 2:20 pm
 8. "ရေမြင့်- - -ကြာတင့်" (ခန့်စည်သူ၊ ငှက်ပျောကြော်၊ ထင်ပေါ်၊ မိုးပြည့်ပြည့်မောင်၊ တက္ကသိုလ်ဂွမ်းပုံ၊ မျိုးမျိုးခိုင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ဖုန်းမြင့်အောင်)
- 2:25 pm
 9. ဟင်းရွက်ရေလှောင်တံ
- 2:45 pm
 10. 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
- 4:45 pm
 4. အဝေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ် ပညာရေးရုံးမြင်သံကြား သင်ခန်းစာ-တတိယနှစ် (သတ္တဗေဒအထူးပြု) (သတ္တဗေဒ)
- 5:05 pm
 5. Musical programme
- 5:15 pm
 6. Dance of national races
- 5:30 pm
 7. Sing and enjoy
- 6:00 pm
 8. Evening news
- 6:30 pm
 9. Weather report
- 6:35 pm
 10. "အသက်ကလေးရယ်တဲ့ ရှည်စေလို" (ဦးအောင်လွင်၊ ဦးကြည်စိုး၊ မေထွဋ်ခေါင်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကြည်စိုး)
- 6:45 pm
 11. မဟာနိသွယ်သွယ်ဆိုကြမယ်
- 7:05 pm
 12. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "နေပြည်ဆမ်းမ" (အပိုင်း-၇)
- 8:00 pm
 13. News
- 14. International news
- 15. Weather report
- 16. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ "ချစ်စရာပျိုကညာ" (အပိုင်း-၂၀)
- 17. The next day's programme

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People's Desire

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

Who are the winners, who the losers from violent protests?

- ☆ **Due to violence and unrest**
 Peace-loving people have to live in state of alarm
 Learning of students disrupted
 Commodity flow stagnant
 Vendors have hard times
 Passenger transport services delayed
- ☆ **Due to violence and unrest**
 Only the notorious neo-colonialists benefited
 Instigators covertly earning dollars
 Expatriates and ax-handles living in luxury
 Followers of colonialists earning handsome dollar rewards

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

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