Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence attends Yangon Expo’ 2009

Yangon, 20 Aug – Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence attended the opening of Yangon Expo’ 2009 held at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road in Dagon Township here at noon today. Chairmen of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint and officials formally opened the expo.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party observed personal goods, cosmetics, foodstuff, electrical appliances and electronics, computer and accessories, clothes, furniture and medicines sold at the shops of the companies in the expo today.

MNA

Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspects regional development tasks in Myitkyina, Mogaung, Mohnyin Townships of Kachin State

Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Aug – Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence together with Chairman of Kachin State Peace and Development Council Commander of Northern Command Maj-Gen Soe Win and officials attended the ceremony to present prizes to the outstanding students in the 2009 matriculation examination of Kachin State at the town hall in Myitkyina at 9.30 am on 15 August.

After giving the awards to prize winning students, schools, townships and teachers, Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, the commander and officials posed for documentary photo together with the prize winning students and cordially greeted those present at the ceremony.

(See page 9)

Htotkawkoe with potential for all-round development

Article: Win Shwe (Myanma Alin); Photos: Reporter Tun Zaw (Sangyoung)

Along the over 20 miles long road section between Kawkareik Township and Htotkawkoe in Kayin State are now flourishing rubber farms, adding to the total acreage of rubber farms in Kayin State.

(See page 7)

Noteworthy Amounts of Rainfall

Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin) 1.18 inches
Hkamti 3.31 inches
Myeik 2.76 inches
Putao 1.73 inches
Pyu 1.57 inches
Kanbalu 1.46 inches
An 1.42 inches
Mogok 1.37 inches
Magway 0.78 inch

Have positive attitude to things

Other countries give advice on means and ways to address the issue being faced by a country, which is very welcoming. And the country should take the advice. Here, the advice must be based on positive attitude. Instead if the advice is associated with orders, pressures, coercion and punishments, it is not true international relations.

KO TOE

PAGE 8

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KO TOE

PAGE 8
**PERSPECTIVES**

*Oppose those relying on external elements as the common enemy*

The government of Myanmar is reviving national cultural heritage and preserving national traits. It is with this end in view that Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts competitions is held every year.

The holding of Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts competitions is to ensure emergence of new generations of artistes and musicians who will work for uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character.

The 17th Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts competitions will be held in Nay Pyi Taw and artistes from states and divisions will take part in it. Now candidates are being shortlisted for the competitions.

Present-day Myanmar performing artistes will have to preserve traditional performing arts handed down to them by their forefathers. Preserving traditional performing arts is not going back to the past but reviving them.

Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts competitions help promote Myanmar music and dance and national character. In other words, they help hand down Myanmar traditional performing arts to new generations of artistes and musicians.

The Myanmar cultural edifice has splendidly existed for ages. Therefore, all artistes and musicians are required to preserve and safeguard cultural heritage and national character by taking part in the competitions, showing their artistic talent to the best of their ability.

**TV Guide Vol: 1, No. 7 in circulation**

**NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—**A ceremony to open anew self-reliant tarred road was held in Maхaungmye Township in Mandalay Division on 10 August.

Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and officials concerned formally opened the tarred road and they inspected it.—MNA

**Commander opens new self-reliant tarred road**

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Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han and officials concerned formally opened the tarred road and they inspected it.—MNA

**Transport Minister inspects Marine Training Center (Dawbon)**

**NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—**Director-General U Maung Maung Oo of Marine Administration Department and officials concerned reported to the minister on arrangements made for conducting the courses namely Full Mission Bridge Simulator Course, Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS), Simulator Course, Radar ARPA (Automatic Radar Plotting Aids) Simulator Course and GOC (General Operation Certificate) Course (GMSS), jointly conducted by Marine Administration Department and Harmonious Unity International Co., Ltd at Marine Training Center (Dawbon).

After that, the minister inspected trainees learning system with teaching- aids at GMSS Simulator Room, Radar ARPA Simulator Room, ECDIS Simulator Room, Full Mission and Bridge Simulator Room. MNA

**Tasks of Myaing Auto-exchange inspected**

**NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—**Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Maj-Gen Thein Tun on 18 August met with townswelders, teachers, students and local people at Affiliated Basic Education High School in Kyauksauk Village in Myaing Township.

The deputy minister presented computer and printer, exercise books and stationery to the school of Kyauksauk Village, exercise books, stationery and cash to the funds of the school in Paikthin Village and one set of computer and printer to Myaing Township Education Office.

He gave 56 CDMA-450 telephones to be installed in 56 villages for ensuring communications in the regions of Myaing Township. Later, the deputy minister inspected tasks of Myaing Auto-exchange.—MNA
Book documenting war crimes committed by US troops in Iraq published

LOS ANGELES, 20 Aug—A book has been published recently by Iraq Veterans against the War, which documents war crimes committed by US troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The book, entitled Winter Soldier Iraq and Afghanistan: Eyewitness Accounts of the Occupations, was compiled by Iraq Veterans Against the War and freelance journalist Aaron Glantz who has covered the Iraq war from the front lines. The English edition was published in the Spring and the Japanese edition was published this month. Both editions are selling well.

The book shows that well-publicized incidents of American brutality like the Abu Ghraib prison scandal and the massacre of an entire family of Iraqis in the town of Haditha are not the isolated incidents perpetrated by “a few bad apples,” as many politicians and military leaders have claimed. They are part of a pattern, the group says, of “an increasingly bloody occupation.”—Xinhua

Baghdad blasts kill 95, Iraqi security criticized

BAGHDAD, 20 Aug — A series of blasts in Baghdad killed 95 people and wounded 536 in Iraq’s bloodiest day this year, prompting a rare admission of culpability from Iraqi security forces left to cope without US help.

At least six blast struck near government ministries and other targets at the heart of Iraq’s Shi’ite-led administration, weeks after US combat troops withdrew from urban centres in June, thrusting Iraq’s security forces into the lead role. “This operation shows negligence, and is considered a security breach for which Iraqi forces must take most of the blame,” Major General Qassim al-Moussawi, Baghdad’s security spokesman, told Iraqiya state TV.

The government said this month that most of the city’s blast walls would be removed within 40 days, a sign of confidence in its security forces after US combat troops withdrew from urban centres in June, and before elections due in January. Wednesday’s blasts were a rare example of a coordinated attack on heavily guarded targets. In one blast, a massive truck bomb close to a security checkpoint leading to the heavily fortified Green Zone blew out the windows of the nearby Foreign Ministry, sending shards of glass through busy offices, killing dozens of people.

Hijackers threatened to blow up mystery ship-agencies

MOSCOW, 20 Aug—The hijackers of a cargo ship that disappeared off the coast of France threatened to blow it up if their ransom demands were not met.

Russian news agencies said on Wednesday, Russia on Tuesday arrested eight people on suspicion of hijacking the Arctic Sea off the Swedish coast and sailing it to the Atlantic Ocean, ending weeks of silence about the fate of a ship which has intrigued European maritime authorities.

Limited information from Russian officials has failed to satisfy sceptics who voiced doubts about whether the piracy actually took place or was a convenient cover story to conceal a possible secret cargo of arms or nuclear material. “The crew members have already confirmed that the captors demanded a ransom and threatened to blow up the vessel if their orders were not obeyed,” Interfax quoted a Russian Defence Ministry spokesman as saying.—Internet

Six American troops killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 20 Aug—The US military said on Wednesday six American troops were killed in Afghanistan, as militants killed six election workers amid growing fears on the eve of the presidential election that insurgents would mar the vote.

Two troops were killed in gunfire in the south on Wednesday, the US military said, while a third was killed in an unspecified hostile attack. The US also said a roadside bomb on Tuesday in the south killed two troops, while another died of noncombat-related injuries. No other details were released. The deaths bring to at least 32 the number of American troops killed in the country this month, a record pace. Forty-four US troops died in Afghanistan last month, the deadliest month of the eight-year war.

Florida man pleads guilty to threat to kill Obama

MIAMI, 20 Aug—A Florida man pleaded guilty on Wednesday to threatening to kill President Barack Obama in an e-mail that said “the blood of Obama will run down the streets” of the US capital, a federal prosecutor said.

Nathan Wine, 21, admitted to a judge in Tampa, Florida, that he had sent the threatening e-mail to the US Army Recruiting Command on 5 November, the day after Obama won the US presidential election, US Attorney A. Brian Albritton said in a news release.
Minneapolis hit by tornado

MINNEAPOLIS, 20 Aug—A tornado struck near downtown Minneapolis on Wednesday afternoon, tossing trees onto cars and damaging buildings but hurting no one, authorities said.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune reported Century Lutheran Church near the Minneapolis Convention Center and a music store south of downtown were among the buildings damaged by the storm, which triggered a round of warning sirens as it developed.

A Twitter file by the Electric Fetus music store said winds blew out two large windows and the roof had caved on the back side of the building, the newspaper said. “We are dealing with it now,” someone at the store tweeted. “No one was hurt.”

The church’s copper steeple was damaged, and two tents set up for a national church convention were knocked down. “We’re thankful that nobody was hurt,” church spokesman Joe Bjordal told the Star Tribune.

Qantas annual profit drops 88%

SYDNEY, 20 Aug — Qantas Airways has posted a large drop in its annual profits, as it continues to struggle with the economic downturn. The Australian airline said net income for year to 30 June fell 88% to 117m Australian dollars ($96.5m; £58.5m).

Qantas also announced A$1.5b of further cost-cutting measures, helping send the company’s shares up by 5%.” There has never been a more volatile and challenging time for the world’s aviation industry,” Qantas chief executive Alan Joyce said.

The airline, like most others across the world, has been struggling with falling demand during the downturn, as well as the impact of the swine flu virus on international travel. “When most airlines are reporting losses, the Qantas group is reporting a profit for the full year,” Mr Joyce said.—Internet

Qantas detailed further cost cuts after slashing jobs in the past year.—Internet

Berlin seeks a million electric cars by ’20

BERLIN, 20 Aug — Germany introduced a campaign on Wednesday to put one million electric cars on the road by 2020, making battery research a priority as it tries to position itself as a market leader.

The programme, which draws on 500 million euros ($705 million) set aside in an economic stimulus package this year but leaves many financing details to the next government, was criticized as too vague.

“It is our aim to make Germany into the market leader for electric mobility,” Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg, the economy minister, said after the cabinet approved the plan.

He said one million by 2020 “is an ambitious aim, but one that we believe can be realized.”

Germany had more than 41 million cars on the road at the beginning of this year — only 1,452 of them electric cars.

The government plans to spend 115 million euros for eight test regions to see how best to introduce the cars.

Two arrested over ‘biggest jewellery heist’

LONDON, 20 Aug — London police have arrested two men in connection with what is thought to be Britain’s biggest jewellery heist.

Two gun-toting and smartly dressed men walked into an exclusive Graff store in central London and stole 43 rings, bracelets, necklaces and watches with a retail value of €40 million ($80 million).

The Metropolitan Police said the pair were arrested yesterday but would not issue any more details for “operational reasons” — including whether they were the same two caught on video pulling off the raid earlier this month.

A record reward of up to £1 million ($2 million) has been offered to find those behind the robbery in broad daylight on London’s swanky New Bond St A 50-year-old man has already been arrested over the robbery, which police have said was well organized and could have involved accomplices.

The two men, dressed in grey suits and white shirts, arrived in a black taxi and threatened staff with handguns. As they left, they dragged a female staff member with them and fired a warning shot outside.

They left her behind as they raced off in a blue BMW.

Passengers walk past a thermographic camera checking their temperature upon arrival at Jeddah airport.

3-D version of “Yellow Submarine” on the way

LOS ANGELES, 20 Aug — Talks are underway to remake The Beatles’ psychedelic animated classic “Yellow Submarine” in 3-D, according to trade magazine Variety.

Disney Studios is in talks with star US movie director Robert Zemeckis to make a new version of the 1968 flick, using 16 Beatles tunes.

The movie will include such Beatles classics as “All Together Now,” “All You Need Is Love,” “When I’m 64,” “Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds” and “ Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band.”

The producers hope their “Yellow Submarine” remake will be ready to open in time for the 2012 Olympic Games in London, Variety said.

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**Philippine economy expected to grow 0.9% in Q2**

**Manila, 20 Aug**—The Philippine economy is forecasted to have expanded 0.9 percent in maximum in the second quarter of this year as consumption remains weak, the government said on Thursday.

The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) said the economy could still have fallen into recession in the worst case scenario as its forecasted for the gross domestic product (GDP) growth is placed at -0.1 to 0.9 percent from April to June.

NEDA policy planning director Dennis Arroyo said that despite the steady inflow of remittances from overseas Filipinos workers, a survey done by the Philippine central bank revealed that consumer sentiment remains weak.

The global recession is discouraging consumers from spending, he said. The NEDA predicted that the industry sector — on back of weaker manufacturing and exports — contracted by 1.3 to 2.9 percent in the second quarter of this year. The agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector is seen to have grown 0.4 to 1.4 percent, driven by the expansion in the commercial fisheries and aquaculture industries.

**Singapore launches 2009 heritage coin set**

**Singapore, 20 Aug**—The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) on Thursday launched the 2009 Heritage Ornaments of Singapore coin set. This is the fourth set of coins issued in tribute to one of Singapore’s national treasures, orchids. Orchids are a significant feature of Singapore’s heritage and the orchid coin series have proven to be popular with coin collectors.

The coin set consists of two coins featuring Spataglottis Primrose and Vanda Amy. Spataglottis Primrose was the first hybrid of the Singapore Botanic Gardens’ breeding programme initiated by Richard Eric Hetttem more than 70 years ago.

With a distinctive lip from the influence of one of its parent, Vanda Tricuspidata, the attractive hybrid Vanda Amy was one of the earlier hybrid registered and created by John Laycock in 1956, a well known lawyer and one of the founding members of the present Orchid Society of South East Asia. He named the orchid after his daughter Amy, who was a city councillor in the period before Singapore’s independence. The coins will be issued in a premium set from Thursday.

**A number of visitors view around the international automotive industry exhibition in Italian, a coastal city of northeast China’s Liaoao Province, on 19 Aug, 2009. —Xinhua**

**Plastic decomposes in oceans**

**Beijing, 20 Aug**—Plastic, believed to be a long-lasting hard-to-breakdown pollutant, does decompose in the oceans.

Katsumiki Saito, a chemist at Nihon University, Chiba, Japan, presented his findings at the annual meeting of the American Chemical Society on Wednesday, according to media reports.

Plastic in the ocean actually decomposes as it is exposed to the rain and sun and other environmental conditions, giving rise to yet another source of global contamination that will continue into the future, said Saito in the statement.

Saito reported that the decomposing plastics release potentially toxic chemicals such as bisphenol A and PS oligomer, which can disrupt the functioning of hormones in animals.

Thousands of tons of plastic debris wind up in the oceans every year, some of it washed up on coasts, some being swirled by currents into the Great Pacific Garbage Patch between California and Hawaii, said to be larger than Texas.

**Strong rains leave 500 homeless in central Chile**

**Santiago, 20 Aug**—Strong rains on Tuesday and early on Wednesday left more than 500 people homeless and 124 houses damaged in the suburbs of Santiago, the National Emergencies Office said on Wednesday.

In the central area of Chile, lots of houses were flooded, roofs collapsed and underground passages were damaged. The most affected areas were Lampa, Baden Polpacio and Rungue.

There were traffic problems at mountain regions. In Valparaiso, the border pass was closed due to the bad weather.

The total rainfall was 48.4 mm until Wednesday morning. A cold wind would enter the country on Thursday.

The meteorological department said the rain clouds were moving to Argentine, but there would be weak showers in the region between Valparaiso and Los Lagos until midday on Wednesday.

**All items from Xinhua News Agency**

**Vietnam loses 1,224 hectares of forest due to fire**

**Hanoi, 20 Aug**—The Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development said that fires have caused damages to 1,224 hectares of forest in the country so far this year, up eight percent year-on-year, local newspaper the Labor reported on Thursday.

Vietnam has recorded 235 forest fires so far this year, an increase of 18 percent compared to the same period last year, said the newspaper.

About 1,054 hectares of planted forests have been burnt in the country’s northern mountainous provinces, according to the newspaper.

**US researchers develop new way to boost biofuel production**

**Washington, 20 Aug**—Researchers at Ohio State University have developed a new way to double the production of biofuel butanol, which might someday replace gasoline in automobiles, the university said on Wednesday.

The process improves on the conventional method for brewing butanol in a bacterial fermentation tank, the university said in a press release.

Normally, bacteria could only produce around 15 grams of the chemical for every liter of water in the tank before it would become too toxic for the bacteria to survive, said Shang-Tian Yang, professor of chemical and bio molecular engineering at Ohio State.

Yang and his colleagues developed a mutant strain of the bacterium Clostridium beijerinckii in a bioreactor containing bundles of polyester fibers. In that environment, the mutant bacteria produced up to 30 grams of butanol per liter.

Right now, butanol is mainly used as a solvent, or in industrial processes that make other chemicals. But experts believe that this form of alcohol holds potential as a bio fuel. Once developed as a fuel, butanol could potentially be used in conventional automobiles in place of gasoline, while producing more energy than another alternative fuel, ethanol. Yang said that this use of his patented fibrous-bed bioreactor would ultimately save money.
Athens, Skopje stalling on Macedonia name

SKOPJE, 20 Aug — Macedonia and Greece have failed once again to solve the 18-year-old Macedonia name dispute between the two neighbouring countries, an official said.

No agreement has yet been reached by officials of Athens and Skopje but efforts are under way to solve the name issue, the Macedonian news agency Makfax said on Wednesday, quoting Matthew Nimitz, a UN mediator. After meeting Greek Ambassador Adamanton Vassilikos in New York on Tuesday, Nimitz said the negotiations are in a dead end, the Macedonian MRT Online reported.

Vassilikos told Nimitz that Greece cannot accept the Skopje proposal. Macedonian Ambassador Zoran Jolevski proposed the name “Republic of North Macedonia” be used only in bilateral communication between the two countries, but Greece insisted this name is used worldwide.

The Athens authorities argue the Macedonia name implies territorial claims on the northern Greek region of the same name and the Skopje government should use the name of the “Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,” as it is recognized by the United Nations. The unsolved name issue is hindering Macedonia’s efforts to join NATO and the European Union.

Runway found for flying reptiles

PARIS, 20 Aug — An ancient runway for flying reptiles called pterosaurs has been found in France, say researchers writing in a Royal Society journal. Led by Jean-Michel Mazin, the international team found a 150 million year-old landing strip in Crayssac in South West France.

The “trackway” shows how the reptile landed feet first, then staggered before walking on all fours. It is still is not known how they took off. The pterosaurs had a wingspan of one metre, but their feet were only 5cm long. Scientists think they possessed many of the flying skills of modern day birds.

The researchers published their work in Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences.

Woman’s tale of carrying 12 babies a hoax

TUNIS, 20 Aug — The Tunisian woman who claimed to be expecting 12 babies has been exposed as a fraud with psychological problems, the country’s Health Ministry said. Known by the initials “AF,” the woman had told local medical she was nine months’ pregnant with six boys and six girls, The Daily Telegraph reported on Wednesday.

An investigation by the Tunisian Health Ministry revealed the woman has “psychological problems and is unlikely even to be pregnant,” a ministry spokesman said. “She’s claiming to be nine months pregnant with six boys and six girls, but there’s absolute nothing about her appearance which indicates this,” the woman refused to be examined by a physician and “we can’t even contact her,” the spokesman said.

“She’s gone into hiding.” A doctor at No’man al Adab Hospital, the only hospital in Gafsa, where the woman lives, confirmed she hadn’t been under the hospital’s care and “undoubtedly” fabricated her condition, the British newspaper said.

“It may be that she’s trying to make money from television,” the doctor said.

“These kind of people can make thousands from appearing on programmes. Perhaps that’s what motivated her.” Her husband, who had a lawyer to handle media inquiries, also has disappeared, the doctor said.

Italian hotel mistakenly offers 1-cent weekend

You had to be quick, but what a deal.

A four-star hotel near Venice mistakenly offered the ultimate low-cost vacation — a romantic weekend in the Italian lagoon city for 1 euro cent.

Not surprisingly, the Crowne Plaza in Quartro D’Altino, 15.5 miles (25 kilometres) from Venice, received bookings for the equivalent of 1,400 room nights on the night the rate was posted on its Web site, the hotel chain acknowledged. And it seems those bookings may be valid.

The hotel first thought the offer was posted by a hacker, sales manager Fulvio Danesin. But it turned out to be human error at the Atlanta, Georgia, offices of Intercontinental Hotels Group, the hotel’s mother company, he said.

The offer was supposed to be for a two-night stay at half price. A night at the 151-room hotel normally costs between euro90 ($128) and euro150 ($214).

Pair of nuns help Mo police nab robbery suspect

Thou shall not steal — especially within sight of a convent. Police in Independence, Mo, are crediting a pair of nuns with helping nab a gun-toting man suspected of burglarizing two homes on Thursday morning.

Around 7am, one of the women glanced out a window of the Sisters of St Francis of the Holy Eucharist convent and spotted a suspicious man walking through a soybean field. She and another nun headed outside to see if the man was lost or hunting illegally.

They saw the man was carrying a shotgun, boxing gloves and other items. When they began to question him, the man ran into nearby woods.

One of the nuns gave chase, wearing her ankle-length habit and flip-flops. He got away, but the 49-year-old nun was able to make an arrest.

Staff members of vegetable science institute in Zhengzhou carry a giant pumpkin in Zhengzhou, capital of central China’s Henan Province. The giant pumpkins were cultivated by vegetable science institute of Zhengzhou from imported new species. The biggest one weighs some 126 kilogramm, and has a diameter of 2.46 meters.

Hallelujah! Mich church wins $70,000 in lottery

Divine intervention? Or just plain luck?

No matter what the circumstances, a Michigan church is $70,000 richer courtesy of the Michigan Lottery. The Covenant Life Worship Center and its 25 members in Haslett, Mich had one of the second-prize tickets in the Lucky 7s raffle held on 4 May.

The $10 ticket was purchased at a convenience store in Haslett, five miles northeast of downtown Lansing. The lottery Web site says the odds of a single ticket winning $70,000 in Lucky 7s are one in 55,556. Michigan Lottery officials say the church will receive the full amount of the prize because it is a tax-exempt group.

Pastor Marilyn Parmelee tells the Lansing State Journal that the prize money will go toward the church building fund, setting up a missionary fund and supporting local community service projects.
Htotkawkoe with potential for all-round development

Article: Win Shwe (Myanma Alin); Photos: Reporter Tun Zaw (Sangyoung)

The region has seen a marked increase in infrastructure and development projects underway.

Moreover, a new school building has been constructed for convenience of the youth of the village and nearby areas. Htotkawkoe has got a rural health centre, five rural health centres. The medical staff regularly made field trips down to the grassroots level to provide health care, raise public awareness of malaria and dengue hemorrhage fever and distribute free treated mosquito nets. The government provided the village with 152 pigs, 66 goats, 1820 chickens and four milch cows. The Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department gives health care to the farm animals twice a week.

A rural health centre with a labour room.

A rural health centre with a labour room.

Vocational Education Centre teaches local women education on cottage industries.

The gravel road to Htotkawkoe Village.

With an iptstar telephone, a 10-watt TV retransmitting station and three daily newspapers, local people can study what is going on in the nation and in the world.

Local people can buy cloths, clothes, personal goods, kitchen utensils and electrical apparatuses at 10 percent discount in Win Thuzar Shop. In its bid to build a modern, developed nation, mobilizing the massive participation of the people, the government is working hard for equitable development of all parts of the nation.

The self-reliant basic education primary school (branch) has been upgraded to a well-furnished affiliated basic education middle school. The region has seen 19 all-weather gravel roads with a total length of three miles and one furlong. The six miles and six furlong long road between Nabu and Htotkawkoe has been upgraded to a tarred one. One 20,000-gallon and 12 1000-gallon tanks have been built for supply of adequate potable water.

The region has seen marked increase in residential development. Up to July this year, the acreage of rubber farms had surged to 248.25 from 42 in 2007. Local farmers grow corn and pigeon peas as mixed crops among teak trees and rubber plants. The Township Myanmar Agriculture Service has provided 6000 young area palms, 50kilo guava saplings, 50 grapefruit saplings, 50 lime saplings, 50 papaya saplings, 100 mango saplings, 50 jackfruit saplings, 50 djenkol bean saplings and 200 pepper saplings for the village. In addition, it disseminates agricultural methods twice a week.

The Education and Training Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs launched the building of a vocational education centre in Htotkawkoe Region on 1 May 2009. It is due to be opened in forthcoming dry season.

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A rural health centre with a labour room.

Houses are set up in rows.
Have positive attitude to things

Ko Toe

Every country has their internal issues, many or few, to be addressed politically. Maybe a developed country with strong economy has only few such internal issues, but there is no country that does not have such issues. A developing country with racial issues and border incidents has a large number of internal issues to address. It is usual for a country to do so, and this concept remains true.

In this regard, every country has to cope with their domestic issues according to the objective situations. So, different nations have different ways to work out their internal issues, and they cannot ignore their problems. They try to serve the interest of their people with own ways, figuring out their local issues. Myanmar is one of such countries. Myanmar has risen from a variety of adversities it faced in last 20 years, restored stability and peace and ensured development to the present degree. Now, the country is putting huge efforts into the democratic process, as aspiréd by the people.

Today is Global Age, so any countries, large or small, cannot stand alone. Every country has to deal with the countries with which they share their borders, regional countries, international organizations and other countries. That is to say, international relations is of great importance. Here, the ways world countries deal with each other are different from one another, and the volumes of friendship and contacts between one country and another are various. I mean all countries ought to honour mutual respect for equality and international rules and regulations promulgated for international relations, but they should not disregard social affairs and due consideration.

Other countries give advice on means and ways to address the issue being faced by a country, which is very welcoming. And the country should take the advice. Here, the advice must be based on positive attitude. Instead if the advice is associated with orders, pressures, coercion and punishments, it is not true international relations.

Today, certain powerful countries are doing the same, in viewing the issues Myanmar is facing. Some countries show their goodwill and stand on the right side, whereas some are putting blame on and denouncing Myanmar, voicing objections and imposing economic sanctions against the country with the intention of making things go as they wish. Myanmar has to welcome any forms of positive attitude. Instead if the advice is associated with racial issues and border incidents has a large number of internal issues to address. It is usual for a country to do so, and this concept remains true.

During and after the trial against Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Mr Yettaw, our country came under pressure put and attacks launched by elements inside and outside the country, which is common knowledge.

They claimed that the accused were charged, put on trial and punished according to the expired constitution, so the government took unjust action. In reality, the laws remain in force so long as the ruling government revokes and dissolves them and their provisions are not contrary to the present constitution. I do not want to make further clarification to that. Prison terms were sentenced to the accused as the legal proceedings are in conformity with the law and they were found guilty.

It is very welcoming that the Head of State commuted the terms with consideration. I would say it is positive attitude showed looking forward to positive results. All the four accused were somewhat privileged. The order carries other privileges they can enjoy if they abide by the restrictions put on them. Halves of the sentences are commuted, the other halves are suspended, and they can live in their home. Moreover, they can enjoy amnesty if they obey the rules. That is very encouraging for all.

However, certain elements are not complacent about the highest compliances, but the countries that understand the objective conditions of our country and compliances show their optimism about the issue and recognize the conditions. Whether the government can comply with the unfair demands or not rests on the law. Making demands for unconditional release of them ignoring that point is a way of opposing the law. They should understand that.

Another issue is Mr Yettaw’s case. In fact, he has to serve his terms in our country. But, at the request of US Senator Mr Jim Webb, the government commuted the sentence to him by half and deported him to his mother country. In that way, Myanmar showed her humanitarian attitude, respect to international relations and forbearance. So, that should be recognized as a respect showed to human rights without animosity but with genuine goodwill.

The release of Mr Yettaw reflects the government’s understanding and forgive and forget attitude based on personal affairs. And it also can be said that the government did what should be done within the framework of the law.

Although our country is acting in accordance with the law with constructive attitude, the West Bloc and certain countries are voicing that they will impose more economic sanctions and tighten economic sanctions. A country disclosed that it will launch one more Myanmar programme to help Myanmar people get involved in democracy movements, apart from present economic sanctions. I notice that they are imposing some more economic sanctions against Myanmar. Actually, that is not a positive approach to the Myanmar issue. All what they plan to do in that regard will harm no one except the country and the people. What is important is to take the public interest into consideration. Suppose they are really generous to our country, why are they trying to harm the public interest and development momentum of the nation? Only with necessary aid and relations with positive attitude, will it be possible for them to contribute to national development.

Anyhow, Myanmar will keep on working steadily according to the steps adopted to achieve the goal of democracy. The follow-up plans will also be implemented according to the law and procedures. Every citizen who is eligible according to the law and bye-laws will be able to participate in the proceedings. The nation will go on the foundations laid in accordance with the constitution.

Myanmar will consider and accept all the positive participations in pursuance of the national goal. However, we will have to ward off any forms of disruptions to national interest. Today, Myanmar is trying its best for its all-round development, so those with negative attitude should wake up and smell the coffee, withdrawing their grudge towards the nation.

Translation: MS

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Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence inspected progress in extending the runway of Myitkyina Airport and thriving tapioca plantation in Myitkyina Station.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye and party viewed maintenance of Mawphaung Bridge, broadcasting of fertilizers at the farmlands of farmer U Maung Nyunt in Mynaung Village of Moguang Township and construction of Nantkhwin Bridge on Shwebo-Myitkyina Road. At Hopin General Administration Department, Lt-Gen Tha Aye looked into office works and sanitation and beautifying tasks at the office and its environs. Lt-Gen Tha Aye instructed officials concerned to join hands with the local people for carrying out development tasks of the township.

The Director of the Ministry of Health presented medicines for Hopin Hospital and Lonton Station Hospital through the medical superintendent of Hopin Hospital.

At the hall of Mohnyin District Peace and Development Council, Lt-Gen Tha Aye met with departmental officials and Kachin State level officials.—MNA

Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence presents prize to an outstanding student.

Construction Minister receives MD of Northern International (Holdings) Co Ltd

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs signs Condolence Book for Former President of ROK

UMFCCI to hold talks
Commander performs regional development work in Dagon Myothit (East), (South) and (Seikkan) Townships

Yangon, 20 Aug—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint accompanied by officials visited Sanpya Agricultural Zone (1) in Dagon Myothit (East) Township yesterday.

After hearing reports on construction of water outlet channel presented by officials at the briefing hall, the commander gave necessary instructions and inspected the site chosen for construction of the water outlet channel.

At plot No-2 of Sanpya Agricultural Zone (2) in Dagon Myothit (South) Township and plot No-9 in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, thriving monsoon paddy plantations, broadcasting of fertilizer and spraying of insecticide, condition of Kannar Road in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township and water outlet channel and left necessary instructions. MNA

MWVO erects billboard for conference-2009

Nay Pyi Taw, 17 Aug—Myanmar War Veterans Organization erected a billboard heralding the conference for 2009 of the Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) Dr. Thein Tun visited laboratories of the Food and Drug Administration.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the president of MAMS. After the meeting, Minister Dr. Kyaw Myint visited laboratories of the Food and Drug Administration. MNA

MAMS holds mid-year meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Aug—Myanmar Academy of Medical Science held its mid-year meeting for 2009 at the University of Nursing (Yangon) here on 17 August.

At the opening address, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint expressed his delight for the achievement in medical science of MAMS.

President of MAMS Director-General (Retd) of the Medical Research Department (Upper Myanmar) Dr. Thein Tun delivered an opening address and the chairman, vice-chairman and the secretary of MAMS read the reports of the academy at the meeting. MNA

Books donated to libraries of IPRD

Yangon, 20 Aug—Dr. Kyaw Win, Project Manager of FXB, donated books to libraries under the Information and Public Relations Department yesterday.

Director (Production) of the Information and Public Relations Department U Aye Kywe accepted 400 copies of “Victims of Human Trafficking and HIV” worth K 480,000 written by Police Col Win Naing Tun handed over by Dr Kyaw Win at Yangon District (West) IPRD.

Wellwishers have been contributing books to libraries at district/township IPRDs. MNA

Press conference on “Electronic & Living ‘09” Exhibition held

Yangon, 20 Aug—With the assistance of Nibban Electric & Electronics, IEMS Company Limited will launch “Electronic & Living ‘09” Exhibition at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Street from 3 to 6 September.

The press conference on “Electronic & Living ‘09” Exhibition was held at Golden Duck Restaurant on Strand Road here. Managing Director U Thet Lwin Shwe of IEMS Company explained the purpose of the exhibition. Managing Director U John Lwin of Stars & Models Int’l, Marketing Manager Daw Thida Toe of Nibban Electric & Electronics and Director U Aung Aung of Shwelamin Ngaga Company gave explanations and replied to the queries.

A total of 120 booths have already been registered. New model laptops from Shwelamin Ngaga Co, computerized medical equipment from Austra-lasia Marketing, Trade and Technology, solar energy use power supply systems from Earth Computer System, online UPSS’s from Golden Lion/IEM, branded laptops and iphones from KMD/Lucky Bird, Then Min/Blue Ray/King Empire/Trust Net/Citicom Cyber City/DoDo Ko Ko, software systems from Smart dictionary/SM3 and other items are available. Stars & Models Int’l will display items at the exhibition and launch advertising campaign with a demonstration. MNA

Director U Aye Kywe of IPRD accepts books donated by Dr Kyaw Win of FXB. MNA

Manager Director U Thet Lwin Shwe of IEMS Co Ltd at the press conference. MNA
Brazil’s court sentences UK tourists for forging luggage theft

RIO DE JANEIRO, 20 Aug—Two British tourists were sentenced by a Brazilian court on Wednesday to eight months of community service for forging a luggage theft.

Both aged 23, Shanti Andrews and Rebecca Turner will have to work seven hours a day for eight months. They were also demanded to pay a fine of 12,090 reais (6,535 US dollars). The two young women were arrested on July 26 in Rio, after reporting their luggage was stolen. Their abnormal calmness when expensive belongings were lost aroused police suspicion.

The officers then decided to check their hotel, where they found the reported stolen objects, including a camera and a cell phone. Andrews and Turner stayed in prison for five days before being granted habeas corpus. The two claimed that they had a laptop stolen when travelling from Foz do Iguacu in Brazil’s southern region to Rio. They added other objects to the stolen-list, expecting to get the luggage insurance money.—MNA/Reuters

Manager gets jail time for Argentine night club fire

BUENOS AIRES, 20 Aug—The former manager of a Buenos Aires nightclub was sentenced to 20 years in jail on Wednesday over a fire that killed 194 people, the deadliest blaze in Argentine history.

Relatives of the victims, who held a candlelit vigil in front of the court, wept and held up family photos as police officer and city government safety officials were acquitted, but the group’s manager, a senior director, was disappointed,” Diego Rozengardt, whose brother died during the Electronic Entertainment Expo or E3 in Los Angeles. —INTERNET

New Zealand man’s love runs deep in search for ring

WELLINGTON, 20 Aug—A New Zealand man has been dubbed the Lord of the Ring after he searched and found his wedding ring more than a year after it slipped off his finger and sank to the sea floor.

The ring was lost for 16 months in the harbour of the country’s capital city, Wellington, before Aleki Taumoepeau found it shining on the sea floor, the DominionPost newspaper reported on Thursday. “The whole top surface of the ring was glowing,” Taumoepeau, an ecologist, said. Taumoepeau had been married for just three months when he lost the wedding ring while conducting an environmental sweep of the harbour.

He roughly marked the spot where the ring had flown from his finger, but was unable to find it despite returning to the area many times. Taumoepeau’s wife offered to buy another ring, but he refused, pledging to find the ring.

Gunmen steal $497,000 in Yemen bank car raid

ADEN (Yemen), 20 Aug—A car transporting 100 million rials (497,000 US dollars) to Yemen’s central bank in Aden was stolen at gunpoint, a police source told Reuters on Monday.

The vehicle, belonging to the Arab Bank’s branch in the country’s southern city, was hit in the rear by another car, and unknown gunmen stole both the bank’s car and cash, the source said. No further details were immediately available.

Four children from one family die in fire in Netherlands

BRUSSELS, 20 Aug—Four children from one family were killed in a house fire in a Dutch town early Wednesday morning. Radio Netherlands reported. The children, aged one, four, six and eight, died in their sleep in an attic bedroom in the central northern town of Kampen. Their mother and 10 other brothers and sisters were rescued. The father, a barge captain, was away in Germany. He has now returned to his family.

The fire brigade were called to the house at around 2:30 a.m. (0030 GMT) on Wednesday and 30 fire fighters extinguished the blaze. The fire brigade suspected that the fire started in the stairway to the attic where the four children were sleeping. —MNA/Xinhua

Elephant keepers assist Motola, a 48-year-old female elephant who lost part of her left front leg after stepping on a land mine 10 years ago, after attaching her with an artificial leg at the Elephant Hospital in Lampang province, northern Thailand Sunday, 16 Aug, 2009. Motola became a symbol of the plight of today’s elephants, and her injury sparked international sympathy and donations. —INTERNET

An Alamosaurus towers over the Dinosaur Trail at the North Carolina Museum of Life and Science in Durham. —INTERNET

This handout photo obtained on 19 Aug, 2009 courtesy of NationalGeographic.com shows a squirrel looking at the camera. The rodent, which first made its appearance in this holiday photo taken by an American couple in Canada, has gone on to become a Web sensation. —INTERNET

Visitors play Sony PlayStation 3 video games during the Electronic Entertainment Expo or E3 in Los Angeles. —INTERNET

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Friday, 21 August, 2009 11
Bermuda gets heads up on Bill

MIAMI, 20 Aug—Hurricane Bill was moving across the Atlantic Ocean on Thursday at Category 4 strength as forecasters said Bermuda should monitor the storm’s strength. At 11 pm EDT, the National Hurricane Center said the center of the storm was about 315 miles northeast of Bermuda with maximum sustained winds near 135 mph. The storm was moving toward the east coast Friday and Saturday.

Large swells should start affecting parts of the US east coast Friday and Saturday. The National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration warned a three-day project of flying hurricane hunter aircraft over the eye of the storm to collect data used in model forecasts.

Women took violent revenge on wrong man

GRIMSBY, 20 Aug—Three women were fined by a British judge for savagely beating a man they mistakenly believed had whistled at them. Authorities said Richard Tailby, 22, was walking with friends in Grimsby, England, when one of his companions wolf-whistled at the three women, identified as Vanessa Delaney, 38, Claire Edwards, 25, and Sally Pawson, 24, the Daily Mail reported on Wednesday.

The women mistakenly identified Tailby as the whisker and chased him to a nearby parking lot, where Edwards grabbed the man in a headlock while the other two women punched and kicked him to the ground. “He managed to get up and run a short distance before they caught up with him and continued by punching him to his head and face,” prosecutor Teresa Rae said of the 16 May incident, which left Tailby with a bruised ear and eye, a cut lip and grazing and swelling on his head.

All three women were admitted being drunk at the time of the incident. Grimsby Magistrate Mike Corry sentenced Pawson and Edwards to 150 hours of unpaid work each, while Delaney was given a night-time curfew for three months and a supervision order for one year. Corry also ordered each of the women to pay £160 in compensation and court costs.

Post-tonsillectomy codeine could be fatal

LONDON, 20 Aug—A doctor in Canada warns the use of codeine to treat pain following a tonsillectomy could prove fatal for some children. Dr Gideon Koren of the University of Western Ontario in-vestigated the death of a 2-year-old boy following a tonsillectomy. Koren said enlarged tonsils are usually treated with antibiotics, but tonsillectomies are performed in the case of sleep apnea, in which the child stops breathing while asleep.

The toddler, who had a history of snoring and sleep-study-confirmed sleep apnea, had the second night after the operation and instructed how to give syrup of codeine and treated with antibiotics, which causes the body to metabolize codeine at a faster rate, producing significantly higher amounts of morphine, Koren said in a statement. If the apnea doesn’t go away, codeine will also suppress the child’s breathing, Koren said.

This demonstrates the need to keep children in hospital under surveillance for at least 24 hours to see if the apnea persists,” Koren said.

Beer thief didn’t get far

DAYTONA BEACH, 20 Aug — Police in Florida said they arrested a homeless man accused of stealing several bottles of beer and a cooler from a yacht club bar.

Daytona Beach police spokesman Jimmie Flynn said Scott Riley, 28, allegedly broke into the Halifax River Yacht Club’s Tiki Bar Sunday night and took the beer and cooler to a shrub across the street from the club, the Daytona Beach News-Journal reported on Wednesday.

Flynt said police found Riley passed out in the shrub next to the bottles and cooler to a shrub across the street from the club.
Preventing illness saves money

ROCHESTER, 20 Aug — Increasing costs are causing many Americans to think twice before seeking healthcare, a US newsletter reports. However, the Mayo Clinic Women’s HealthSource advises those who want to save money on healthcare to think seriously about giving up expensive and unhealthy habits.

“Smoking is the single greatest cause of preventable death and illness in the United States,” the newsletter says. “Drink alcohol in moderation, if at all.” The newsletter advises fostering good health habits, including:

- Maintaining a healthy weight. This helps prevent and control serious and costly health conditions, including diabetes and heart disease.
- Flossing and brushing teeth daily.
- Using seat belts and bike helmets.
- Wearing sunscreen.
- Washing hands frequently with soap and water.

Gene variations related to brain changes

SAN DIEGO, 20 Aug — US and Norwegian scientists say they’ve shown gene changes are linked with brain structure changes in healthy people, as well as those with brain disorders.

A research team from Umeå University Hospital and the University of Oslo, both in Norway, and the Scripps Translational Science Institute in La Jolla, Calif., examined 944 healthy people, as well as patients with Alzheimer’s disease and those with psychotic disorders. A genetic analysis and a structural magnetic resonance imaging study were completed for each person.

Researchers focused on the MECP2 gene that is associated with brain development, as well as regions surrounding the gene. “Common variations in the MECP2 region result in changes to brain structure, even in healthy individuals,” said UC-San Diego Professor Anders Dale, a study co-author who said the research is the first to show such structural brain changes are seen in both healthy and brain-disordered individuals.

Nicholas Schork of the Scripps Institute, another co-author, said the variation in the MECP2 gene resulted in “reduced surface area in the brain’s cortex, the area that plays a key role in memory, attention, perceptual awareness, thought and language.”

The study appears in the online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.
S P O R T S

Serena, Clijsters, Sharapova advance, Safina falls

TORONTO, 20 Aug — World number one Dinara Safina was eliminated while Serena Williams, Maria Sharapova and Kim Clijsters advanced to the third round of a two-million-dollar WTA hardcourt tournament here. France’s Aravane Rezai rallied to oust Russia’s Safina 3-6, 6-2, 6-4. Safina made 17 double faults and struggled after losing last Sunday’s WTA final in Cincinnati to Serbia’s Jelena Jankovic.

Safina joined the seeded scrapheap in Canada that also includes number three Venus Williams, bounced Tuesday by Ukraine’s Kateryna Bondarenko. Safina blamed her service struggles on a number of issues. “Ball toss was a disaster,” moaned the Russian. “I don’t move my legs. I’m jumping backwards instead of jumping forwards. I’m kicking it too much instead of hitting it more. I drop my head. I don’t hold the left arm. “I know this all, and I’m still so stupid that I’m continuing to do it.”

Fergie keeps cool despite United’s shock defeat

BURNLEY, 20 Aug — Sir Alex Ferguson insists he is not concerned about Manchester United’s goal-scoring problems despite managing just one goal in their first two Premier League matches.

The champions beat Birmingham 1-0 on Sunday but slipped to an embarrassing 1-0 defeat at Burnley in their second match of the season on Wednesday.

Ferguson is still getting to grips with life without Cristiano Ronaldo and Carlos Tevez as United have failed to convince at the start of the campaign.

The United manager felt his side still created plenty of chances against the Clarets and thinks they could run riot at Wigan on Saturday if they come up with a similar number of opportunities.

Ferguson, who saw Michael Carrick’s penalty saved at Turf Moor, insists his team will quickly bounce back from losing their second match of the season. He said: “I’m sure we’ll get a response on Saturday. We’re all disappointed it was a bad result. “It was a terrific pitch so that’s no excuse. We just should have done better with it.”

Real striker Negredo to sign for Sevilla

MADRID, 20 Aug — Real Madrid striker Alvaro Negredo has ended weeks of speculation about his future and agreed to join Primera Liga rivals Sevilla, Spanish sporting dailies said Thursday.

The 23-year-old was last month linked with Tottenham and then more recently with Hull City and Zenit St Petersburg and finally with newly promoted Spanish side Zaragoza.

The Marca newspaper said Sevilla, which qualified for this season’s European Champions League by finishing third behind Barcelona and Real, will pay 15 million euros (21 million dollars) for the player, who is set to sign a four-year contract later Thursday.

It said the club will have an option to buy back the striker for 18 million euros in the first year and 21 million in the second.

Another paper, AS, put the transfer fee at 14 million euros with a buy-back option of 17 million over the two seasons.

Lyon, Atletico Madrid shine in Champions League play-offs

PARIS, 20 Aug — French side Lyon stunned closer to a 10th successive Champions League group stage appearance on Wednesday while attack-minded Atletico Madrid also seized control of their play-off tie in hot and hostile Greece.

Lyon, who were forced into the qualifying competition after losing their seven-year grip on the French title last season, crushed Anderlecht 5-1. The French side were 4-0 ahead at the break with Mirel Rădoi, Lisandro Lopez, with a penalty, Michel Bastos and Alessandro Matri scoring.

Another paper, AS, put the transfer fee at 14 million euros with a buy-back option of 17 million over the two seasons.

Ferguson rubbishes rumours of Liverpool exit

LIVERPOOL, 20 Aug — Rafael Benitez pledged his 100 per cent commitment to Liverpool after rumours that he was set to quit Anfield.

Benitez, whose side cruised to a 4-0 victory over Stoke at Anfield, was speaking after pre-match whispers swept Mersey-side claiming that the Spaniard was ready to quit over lack of transfer funds given to him by the club’s American owners Tom Hicks and George Gillett.

“I was told about the rumours before the game. Maybe it’s something that can happen here. But I am staying here for the fans, the staff and the players.”

After watching his side coast to their first victory of the campaign, Benitez also said he was on the brink of signing Greek defender Sotirios Kyrgiakos from AEK Athens for two million pounds. The former Rangers players is due to undergo a medical in the next 24 hours with a view to joining the club ahead of Monday’s home match with Aston Villa.

National Games’ torch travels in NE China

CHANGCHUN, 20 Aug — The torch of the 11th National Games reached northeast China on Wednesday and traveled in Changchun City, capital of Jilin Province on Thursday. Han Changfu, governor of Jilin Province, lit the torch named Ruyi which is an S-shaped jade that represents luck in ancient China, and handed it to Zhao Peifeng, chief of Jilin Administration of Sports who passed the torch to the first bearer Li Juqian, a silver medal winner of Winter Olympics.

The other four bearers in Jilin leg were Meng Yan, Wei Yanan, EMeidie and Zhang Jing who were silver medal winners in Winter Olympics.

The four other bearers in Jilin leg were Meng Yan, Wei Yanan, EMeidie and Zhang Jing who were athletes specialized in 400m hurdles, marathon, free combat and short track speed skating respectively. Jilin is the fifth leg of the 11th National Games’ torch relay and the next stop is Harbin in Heilongjiang Province. The torch will arrive in Jinan, capital of east China’s Shandong Province and the host of the Games, after two-month tour of the country. The Games will officially open on 16 Oct and end on 28 Oct.

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Medvedev calls for tougher "terrorism" trials

Moscow, 20 Aug—Insurgents arrested in the turbulent North Caucasus region should be tried elsewhere in Russia, President Dmitry Medvedev said on Wednesday, part of a series of moves to tackle a growing wave of attacks.

In a tough speech to security officials following a bomb attack on a police station in Ingushetia in which 25 people were killed, Medvedev said insurgents should be wiped out “without emotion or doubt”. He also proposed curbing the types of cases that can be heard by juries, a move activists said could strike a fatal blow to efforts to reform the country’s weak court system. Intensifying violence in the North Caucasus, where Russia has fought two wars with Chechen separatists since the early 1990s, is viewed by the Kremlin as a security threat that spread through the country.

“Some time ago we got the impression the situation in the Caucasus concerning terrorist attacks had improved,” Medvedev told the meeting in the southern Russian city of Stavropol, according to an official transcript. “Unfortunately, recent events show this is not so,” he said, referring to Monday’s attack, the deadliest in the North Caucasus in four years. “We must not so,” he said, referring to Monday’s attack, the Russian city of Stavropol, according to an official

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Yangon Division, rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon, Bago and Irrawaddy Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan and Tanintharyi Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfall in upper Sagaing Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (1.18) inches, Hlaing (3.31) inches, Myeik (2.76) inches, Patao (1.73) inches, Phy (1.57) inches, Kanbula (1.46) inches, An (1.42) inches, Moek (1.37) inches and Magway (0.78) inch.

Maximum temperature on 19-8-2009 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 20-8-2009 was 72°F. Relative humidity at (99:30) hours MST on 20-8-2009 was 79%. Total Sun shine hours on 19-8-2009 was (10:3) hours approx.

Rainfall on 20-8-2009 was Nil at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (81.30) inches at Mingaladon, (92.87) inches at Kaba-Aye and (93.70) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kab-Aye) was (4) mph from South at (18:20) hours MST on 19-8-2009.

Monsoon: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 20th August 2009: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah, Kayin and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan and Rakhine States, Magway Division and widespread in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of weak monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 21-8-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 21-8-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 21-8-2009: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VOA, BBC - sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB - generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed by broadcasts designed to cause troubles

One more New Influenza A (H1N1) infected patient found
Number of patients with virus reaches 24
One patient discharged from hospital

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Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence honours outstanding students in Mon State

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Aug—The prize presentation for outstanding students and teachers was held at the hall of Mon State in Mawlamyine on 17 August morning.

After delivering an address, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence presented the best pass-rate state across the nation to Mon State and prizes to outstanding students in the matriculation examination 2009.

Next, he explained academic matters. Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win reported on accomplishments of the education plans of the state and the Mon State Education Officer on the respective sector.

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw, the commander and officials awarded outstanding students and teachers.

On 18 August, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw viewed construction of No. 1 two-storey modern market on Strand Road in Mawlamyine and gave instructions on timely completion of the construction task.

At the office of Perennial Tree Applied Research Division of Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise near Hpa-auk Village of Hpa-an Township, officials submitted the reports on tasks of the research division.

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw viewed conducting of research work and growing of saplings and cultivation of oil palm plants.

Yesterday, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw looked into conditions of Mawlamyine-Thaton-Kyaikto Road.

Li-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence honours outstanding students in Mon State

Danger water level of Sittoung River

YANGON, 20 Aug—According to the 12:30 hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung river at Madauk is 1115 cm and it has exceeded by 45 cm (about 1.5 ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level 1070 cm during the next 48 hours commencing noon today.—MNA

The News and Periodicals Enterprise has been delivering its three dailies to sales agents in towns throughout the country at the cost of K 50 per copy.