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Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives
* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Importance of efficient use of water from the dams, river water pumping stations and tube-wells the government has constructed in the arid regions stressed

Prime Minister inspects greening tasks, water supply tasks, agricultural undertakings in Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing divisions

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Aug – Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe, ministers, deputy ministers, Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe, the director-general of the Government Office and departmental heads, visited the Shwezigon Pagoda in Bagan archaeological region at 7 am yesterday and offered flowers, water, oil lights and incensed sticks to the pagoda.

Next, the Prime Minister made cash donations to the pagoda’s funds and paid homage to the pagoda. On arrival at the integrated farm of NyaungU Township Cooperatives Syndicate by NyaungU-Myingyan road, the Prime Minister heard a report by Director U Aung Phyo of Mandalay Division Cooperatives Department on farming and products.

At the farm, the Prime Minister inspected the biogas tank, seasonal crop plantation, livestock breeding farms and monsoon paddy plantation and instructed responsible persons to strive for greater success of integrated farms and to organize the educated youth to engage in farming.

At the briefing hall of Kyee wa river-water pumping project, the Prime Minister heard reports by Deputy Director U Tin Maung Win of Magway Division Water Resource Utilization Department on the project tasks, supply of water. Col Phone Maw Shwe reported on greening tasks in Pakokku District and employing various ways to get irrigation water.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects Integrated Farm of Cooperatives Syndicate of NyaungU Township.—MNA

Afterwards, the Prime Minister visited the 160-acre plantation of Hsinweyin, Shwemyanmar Ya-9, 90-day Thetlyin, Thukhayin and Shwethweyin paddy strains which was transformed from crop lands in the Thukaungte river-water pumping field in Thitdauk village in NyaungU Township and cordially greeted the local farmers.

The Prime Minister and party went to Pakokku in Magway Division by crossing the Ayeyawady River by watercraft. Departmental officials welcomed the Prime Minister and party. Next, he viewed development of Pakokku by car.

Kyeewa river-water pumping project will benefit 5000 acres of farmlands by pumping water from the Ayeyawady River. Now, the project has carried out three pumping phases out of nine and providing irrigation water to 700 acres of lands.

In response to the reports, the Prime Minister gave instructions on carrying out of water supply tasks through the already-built dams and reservoirs, compulsorily growing of paddy with single-cropping pattern in irrigated areas and cultivation of other cash crops to contribute to regional food-sufficiency.

Kyeewa river-water pumping project will benefit 5000 acres of farmlands by pumping water from the Ayeyawady River. Now, the project has carried out three pumping phases out of nine and providing irrigation water to 700 acres of lands.

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Work hard for the success of the agricultural sector

Prime Minister General Thein Sein on 21 August inspected the progress of agricultural work and availability of water for agricultural purpose in Yamethin, Meiktila, Myingyan and NyaungU Districts in Mandalay Division.

During his tour, the Prime Minister met with the farmers of Twinywa village-tract in Pyin Oo Lwin Township, inquired about the rainfall in the region, cultivation of paddy and seasonal crops, per-acre yield and availability of water and encouraged them to work hard.

The Prime Minister also met with local farmers of Apyauk village and urged them to work hard for improvement of their socio-economic status by systematically using education, health, transport and irrigation facilities provided by the government.

In his meeting with the farmers of Legyi village-tract in Mahlaing Township on 22 August, the Prime Minister took part in the discussion on modern integrated farming system and use of bio-gas for rural development.

The government has been rendering all the necessary assistance for irrigation of farmland and increasing per-acre yield of crops to fulfill the basic needs of people.

In the upcountry, where water is scarce, the government is building dams, river water-pumping stations and sinking tube-wells to ensure sufficient water supply not only for drinking but also for agricultural work.

The government is fulfilling all the needs for the improvement of education, health and transport in every region across the nation. Therefore, it is necessary for the farmers to work hard for the success of the agricultural sector by making the best use of assistance rendered by the government.

Premier Coffee Singing Contest and Ginsetin Beauty Contest held

YANGON, 24 Aug — Premier Coffee Singing Contest and Ginsetin Beauty Contest jointly organized by Premier Coffee and Ginsetin (Korea Ginseng capsules) took place at the Sedona Hotel here on 22 August evening.

The contests were graced by the presence of members of the board of directors of the company, doctors, sales agents, journalists from the media, and artists.

A total of 18 selected candidates contended for the prizes in the singing contest. First prize went to Su Mu Mu Htwe, second to Tun Myint Win and third to Khine Than. Ginsetin Beauty Contest was participated by 12 selected candidates in which Su Pyae Soe Lwin won first prize, Su Latt Nanda second and AyeMyatThaMyan third.

The best singer prize of Premier Coffee advertisement song went to Yun Pan Ein, Premier Coffee and Ginsetin (Korea Ginseng capsules) took place at the Sedona Hotel here on 22 August.

L&F Minister supervises regional development tasks

YANGON, 24 Aug — Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein visited villages and townships to the headmistress and townswill. In the evening, the minister met with the Managing Director and officials of Fisheries Department and the Chairman and executives of Myanmar Fisheries Federation at the department on Sinmin Road in Ahlon Township and discussed matters related to boosting of export. On 23 Aug, the minister inspected No (2) Fish Breeding Station in Wadaw Village of Maubin District, Ayeyawady Division.—MNA

Special Appellate Bench hears seven special civil appeal cases

YANGON, 24 Aug — The Special Appellate Bench comprising Deputy Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (Yangon) U Thein Soe, Supreme Court Judges of the Supreme Court (Yangon) U Khin Myint and U Chit Lwin sitting at court room No. 1 of the Supreme Court (Nay Pyi Taw) heard 7 special civil appeal cases under section 7 of the Judiciary Law 2000 this morning.—MNA

Golden Retriever Show-2009 to be held

YANGON, 24 Aug — Golden Retriever Show-2009 organized by Pet Keepers’ Assocation of Myanmar Livestock Breeding Association and sponsored by Fortune Int’l Ltd will be held at the federation on Bayintnaung Street in Insein Township on 28 August.

Feed to Breed Dr Fabienne of Royal Canin Group and Dr Maung Maung San (Author Kyi Min) will give talks and those interested may attend the talks.

Experts of Royal Canin Group will give talks on Dermatology and Vet Diet to vets at Sedona Hotel here on 29 August and details can be inquired at Fortune Int’l Ltd, Ph:211392, 211393 and 0950-14645.

MNA
**Obama facing hard choices on Afghanistan war plans**

WASHINGTON, 24 Aug— As public support for the war in Afghanistan erodes, US President Barack Obama soon may face two equally unattractive choices: increase US troops levels to beat back a resilient enemy, or stick with the 68,000 already committed and risk the political fallout that’s not enough. Army Gen Stanley McChrystal, the top US commander in Afghanistan, is completing an assessment of what he needs to win the fight there. That review, however, won’t specifically address force levels, according to Adm Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

But military officials privately believe McChrystal may ask for as many as 20,000 additional forces to get an increasingly difficult security situation in Afghanistan under control. And one leading Republican is already saying McChrystal will be pressured to ask for fewer troops than he requires.

“I think there are great pressures on General McChrystal to reduce those estimates,” said Sen John McCain, R-Ariz, in an interview broadcast on Sunday. “I don’t think it’s necessarily from the president. I think it’s from the people around him and others that I think don’t want to see a significant increase in our troops’ presence there.”

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**US service member killed in southern Afghanistan**

KABUL, 24 Aug — An American service member was killed in an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan, the US military said on Monday.

The fatality on Sunday was the 57th death of a US military member in the Central Asian country since the beginning of August, a month that has seen a jump in attacks and violence as Afghanistan readied for its second-ever direct presidential election on Thursday.

A military statement said the service member died on Sunday, and provided no further details. US commanders had predicted a bloody summer after President Barack Obama ordered 21,000 additional US troops to Afghanistan in a bid to turn the tide against a resurgent Taliban and shift the focus on the global war against Islamic extremism from Iraq.

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**Venezuela repeats at Miss Universe contest**

NASSAU, 24 Aug — Miss Venezuela was the fairest of them all once again, winning the 2009 Miss Universe crown for the second year straight and the sixth time since the pageant’s creation.

Dressed in a flowing red gown, 18-year-old Stefania Fernandez hugged the runner-up from the Dominican Republic and danced in joy as her victory was announced on Sunday.

The crown briefly fell to the floor as it passed from one Venezuelan beauty to the next. But Fernandez said there was time for outgoing Miss Universe Dayana Mendoza to whisper in her ear that she must have worked hard for Venezuela to win consecutive crowns. “What do we Venezuelans have?” Fernandez, an international relations student, asked reporters after the pageant. “That we are ourselves.”

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**Abbas’ calling for PNC convention hinders inter-Palestinian dialogue**

GAZA/RAMALLAH, 24 Aug—Gaza-ruling Hamas movement on Sunday said Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas’ decision to convene the Palestinian National Council (PNC) in the West Bank on 26 Aug adds “another obstacle to the success of inter-Palestinian dialogue.” “This would make the Palestinian situation more complicated and adds more obstacles to the dialogue as well as Egypt’s efforts to reach a reconciliation agreement in Cairo soon,” Hamas said in a statement sent to reporters in Gaza.

Abbas earlier announced that the PNC, parliament of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), would convene in the West Bank city of Ramallah to elect new members of the PLO executive committee, which represents the PLO factions and is considered the sole representative of all Palestinian people. Abbas said the new members will fulfill the seven vacant posts of the 18-member executive committee. In 1996, the PNC met in Gaza and removed the reference of destroying Israel from its charter. In 1998, the PNC convened in Gaza and reaffirmed these changes, with 660 members from the Palestinian territories and abroad attending the meeting. Since the last PNC convention in 1998, several members of the PLO executive committee had died, challenging the legality of the committee due to short of quorum.

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**A view of the damage at the Mohammad al-Qassam bridge following a massive explosion near the Iraqi Finance Ministry in the northern Baghdad neighbourhood of Waziriyyah. — Internet**

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**A firefighting vehicle moves towards the fire in Dionissos northern Athens suburb. Greek officials evacuated houses, children’s hospitals and a retirement home on Sunday as firefighters backed by water-bombing aircraft battled a raging wildfire threatening Athens' eastern suburbs. — Internet**
**Analyst Bove sees 150-200 more US bank failures**

New York, 24 Aug—A prominent banking analyst said on Sunday that 150 to 200 more US banks will fail in the current banking crisis, and the industry’s payments to keep the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp afloat could eat up 25 percent of pretax income in 2010.

Richard Bove of Rochdale Securities said this will likely force the FDIC, which insures deposits, to turn increasingly to non-US banks and private equity funds to shore up the banking system. “The difficulty at the moment is finding enough healthy banks to buy the failing banks,” Bove wrote.

The FDIC is expected on 26 August to vote on relaxed guidelines for private equity firms to invest in failed banks, after critics said previously proposed rules were too harsh and would actually dissuade firms from making investments.

Bove said “perhaps another 150 to 200 banks will fail,” on top of 81 so far in 2009, adding stress to the FDIC’s deposit insurance fund.

Three large failures this year—BankUnited Financial Corp in May, and Colonial BancGroup Inc, Guaranty Financial Group Inc in August — collectively cost the fund roughly $10.7 billion.—Internet

**Singapore shoots down “rumor” of APEC attack plot**

Singapore, 24 Aug—Singapore has downplayed media reports of a plot to attack an Asia-Pacific summit in the city-state in November, the Straits Times newspaper reported on Monday.

“The rumors are rumors. You check it, if it is unverifiable, you know you can’t be chasing after every rumor,” Second Home Affairs Minister K Shanmugam was quoted by the daily as saying during a mock terrorist attack exercise on Sunday.

The Singapore Police Force and the Ministry of Home Affairs were not available for immediate comment.

An intelligence analyst from the Center for Intelligence and National Security in Indonesia told Reuters last week probes into last month’s bombings in Jakarta had uncovered a plot to target the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Singapore.—Internet

**Europe’s top tourist venues hit by economic crisis**

Paris, 24 Aug—Empty terrace tables at Parisian cafes. Fewer sunbathers scattered along Italian and Spanish beaches. The global economic crisis has cast a dark cloud over Europe’s top tourist destinations.

France, the world’s tourism champion with 79.3 million visitors last year, has been hit hard by the drop in foreign travellers.

The number of international visitors in France has fallen by nearly one-third in the heat of summer — the first five months of the year, government figures show.

Spain, which fell to third place among the world’s favourite tourist destinations last year, has suffered a 10 percent drop in visits this summer following an 11.4 percent fall in the first half of the year.

**China’s Sinopec first-half net profit up more than fourfold**

Beijing, 24 Aug—China’s Sinopec said on Sunday its first-half net profit rose more than fourfold from a year earlier to 33.25 billion yuan (4.85 billion dollars), helped by higher refined oil prices in the domestic market.

Net profit in the first six months of 2009 increased by 332.8 percent from the year-earlier period, said Sinopec, the largest oil refiner in Asia, in statements to the Shanghai and Hong Kong stock exchanges.

“Since 2009, domestic oil product pricing mechanism reform has turned refining business from loss to profit,” the company said in the statement. “The domestic pricing mechanism of oil products is being improved.”

China raised retail fuel prices once in March and twice in June. Last month, it cut petrol and diesel prices, but in net terms prices are higher than at the beginning of the year.

**Qantas blame LA and London routes for profit nosedive**

Melbourne, 24 Aug—Australian flag-carrier Qantas on Sunday blamed flagging demand on its key London and Los Angeles routes for an 88 percent drop in annual net profit.

Chief executive Alan Joyce said the two routes, once the airline’s main profit generators, were operating at a loss due to increased competition and the impact of the global financial crisis.

Joyce said that while the airline’s domestic operations were still profitable, the LA and London routes had dragged its international business into the red.

“Basically, those routes are the biggest issue,” he told public broadcaster ABC.

“Those two big routes are very dependent on premium traffic. Premium traffic dropped by between 20 and 30 percent for us.” Qantas last week announced net profit fell to 117 million dollars (96.6 million US) in the 12 months to June, down from 969 million.

**Brazil’s banks more optimistic about economic growth than govt**

Rio de Janeiro, 24 Aug—Brazilian private banks’ economic forecasts are unexpectedly more optimistic than those made by the government.

Three top banks — Bradesco, Itau-Unibanco and Rio Bravo Inversions respectively forecast that the GDP would grow 2.1 percent, 1.8 percent and 1.7 to 2 percent in the second quarter.

However, Finance Minister Guido Mantega estimated that the GDP would grow 1.5 to 1.7 percent in the second quarter from a year earlier, while the National Economic and Social Development Bank (BNDES) believes the full-year growth would be just 0.7 percent.

**Workers walk on a roof of the Theme Pavilion for the 2010 World Expo covered by solar panels in Shanghai, on 23 Aug, 2009. Beijing is trying to improve its energy efficiency and reduce surging demand for imported oil and gas by closing smaller, less efficient power plants and encouraging use of wind, solar and other clean sources.**—Internet

**Banks may have to tighten guidelines for failed banks, to turn incre-
aslingly to non-US banks and private equity funds to shore up the banking system.**—Internet

**Three large failures this year—BankUnited Financial Corp in May, and Colonial BancGroup Inc, Guaranty Financial Group Inc in August — collectively cost the fund roughly $10.7 billion.**—Internet
Thai economy contracts 4.9% in Q2

BANGKOK, 24 Aug—Thailand’s gross domestic product (GDP) in the second quarter contracted by 4.9 percent year-on-year, which in turn makes country’s economy register a 6 percent decline in first half of 2009, said a economic performance report on Monday. “However, seasonally adjusted real GDP in Q2 expanded by 2.3 percent after 5.9 percent and 1.8 percent contraction in Q4/2008 and Q1/2009, suggesting that the Thai economy has already bottomed out and the worst is behind Thailand,” said the report “Thai Economic Performance in Q2 and Outlook for 2009”, released by National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) on Monday.

According the report, the decline is attributed primarily to the impacts of the world economic recession, domestic political unrest, and the A/H1N1 flu 2009 epidemic, and these hampering factors have left exports, tourism, private consumption and investment to fall sharply.—Xinhua

Developed countries eyeing green economy as route out of crisis

BEIJING, 24 Aug—Under the pressure of a double crisis, financial and climate, some developed countries are striving to add more green colour to their economies, as a way out of recession and to create more jobs. Investment in green economy is a good way to combine economic stimulus with the urgent task of addressing climate change, said World Bank Chief Economist and Senior Vice President Justin Yifu Lin in an recent interview with Xinhua. “It will also yield great benefit in the long run,” he added.

However, doubts and worries remain despite the promising future government officials described in advocating the green economy. Britain has taken the lead in promoting a green economy and has become the first country in the world to set itself legally binding “carbon budgets.” The British government in July issued the Low Carbon Transition Plan that plots out how the country will meet its emissions targets by cutting 34 percent by 2020, from 1990 levels.—Xinhua

Indonesia, China to develop trade cooperation despite dwindling trade in H1

Jakarta, 24 Aug—Chinese ambassador to Indonesia Zhang Qiyue said here on Monday that trade value between Indonesia and China was down by 20 percent year-on-year to 11.7 billion US dollars in the first half this year.

She said that the trade value reduction in the first half this year was due to the impact of global economic crisis and was the first to occur since 2001.

Zhang, however, said that the trade value between the two countries apparently increased 37.2 percent in the second quarter this year, compared with the number in the first quarter. She regarded it as a sign of recovery. “The trade value between Indonesia and China is expected to reach 30 billion US dollars in 2010. But surprisingly we learned that the trade value has reached 31.5 billion dollars in 2008,” Zhang said in her remarks to usher Chinese’s Henan Province delegation to the Indonesian Industrial Ministry.—Xinhua

Netanyahu hopes Israeli-Palestinian peace talks to resume by late September

JERUSALEM, 24 Aug—Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that he expected direct peace negotiations between the Jewish state and the Palestinians to resume by late September.

“Israel, the United States and others are interested in resuming direct (peace) talks with the Palestinians. It’s possible to hold in late September, but require reaching understandings with the Americans and the Palestinian Authority,” Netanyahu was quoted by local daily The Jerusalem Post as telling the ministers during the weekly cabinet meeting.

The peace talks have been stalled since Israel launched a military offensive in the Gaza Strip in December. The Palestinian Authority has repeatedly said peace talks with Israel can not resume until Netanyahu halts settlement activities and accepts the two-state solution.

Israel, the United States and others are interested in resuming direct peace talks with the Palestinians. It’s possible to hold in late September, but require reaching understandings with the Americans and the Palestinian Authority.”

Over the past few months, the US administration has been leading the international community to urging Israel to totally freeze settlement activities in the West Bank and East Jerusalem to help revive the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Yet the Netanyahu government has so far refused to yield to that demand, raising worries about the relations between the two nations.

Xinhua

China’s Bai becomes youngest ever women’s world marathon champion

BEIJING, 24 Aug—China’s Bai Xue had expected to win a medal but ended up with a historic gold and a record. After 40 kilometres when there were only three left in the leading pack and a medal had already been secured, she decided to fight her heart out for a gold.

She then threw her hat away with one kilometre to go, overtaking her only rival Yoshimi Ozaki of Japan and winning the first gold medal for China at the 12th World Athletics Championships.

At 20, Bai became the youngest ever women’s world champion in the marathon. She was the first Chinese to win a marathon race in the world championships or Olympic Games. She also put an end to Chinese women’s 10-year-old gold drought as the worlds. Liu Hongyu was the last Chinese woman to win a gold in women’s 10km walk in Seville 1999.

China’s Bai Xue (C) stands on the podium during the women’s marathon medal ceremony of the 2009 IAAF Athletics World Championships in Berlin, capital of Germany, on 23 Aug, 2009.—XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Bus crash kills 19 in Peru

LIMA, 24 Aug—A total of 19 people died on Sunday after an inter-city bus fell off a 50-metre ravine, the nation’s Highway Police told reporters on Sunday.

The accident took place in Quichauas, a town on the Huancayo-Huanacavaca Highway, which links the central Junin province with the southern Huanacavca Province. Apart from the killed, 15 wounded were sent to nearby hospitals.

A passenger said that the driver was talking to someone on the bus when the accident took place.—Xinhua

Contestants of Miss Tourism Queen International 2009 pose for photos with the students of Shaolin Temple Tagou Wushu School in Dengfeng, central China’s Henan Province, on 23 Aug, 2009.—XINHUA
Rare tiger killed, body stolen from Indonesian zoo

JAKARTA, 24 Aug—A group of thieves killed an endangered tiger in an Indonesian zoo and stole most of its body, zoo officials said on Sunday, a theft police suspect was motivated by the animal’s valuable fur and bones.

The remains of the female Sumatran tiger were found by staff on Saturday at the Taman Rimba Zoo in Jambi Province on Sumatra island, said zoo director Adrianis, who like many Indonesian uses only one name. “It was sadistic,” Adrianis said of the attack. “The killers left only its intestines in the cage.”

Posma Lubis, lead detective for the Jambi police department, said they were searching for the perpetrators.

It was unclear how the thieves broke into the zoo or how many were involved.

British-based international wildlife trade monitoring network TRAFFIC said in a 2008 report that it found tiger bones, claws, skins and whiskers being sold openly in eight cities on Indonesia’s Sumatra island in 2006, despite tough laws banning such trade.

The group estimated that 23 tigers had been killed to supply the parts found for sale in souvenirs, Chinese medicine and jewelry stores.

American soldier killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 24 Aug—The US military says an American soldier has died of injuries sustained during an attack on a US patrol in the Iraqi capital.

A military statement says the soldier assigned to Multi-National Division-Baghdad died Sunday but gave no further details.

It says the soldier’s identity is being withheld pending notification of next of kin. It says the incident is under investigation.

China ready to pilot Cathay Pacific

HONG KONG, 24 Aug—With Air China last week boosting its stake in Cathay Pacific, the globally renowned Hong Kong airline has moved a step closer to becoming a mainland company, analysts say.

By increasing its holding to 29.99 percent, Air China bolstered its position to just a hair’s breadth below the 30 percent threshold that would trigger a mandatory takeover offer, while also doubling its presence on the Cathay board to four members.

Yet the move was met with rumblings of disquiet in some corners, amid fears a Chinese takeover may tarnish a carrier regarded as a key emblem of Hong Kong’s “One Country, Two Systems” autonomy from the mainland, and even pose an existential threat to the city.

“The sale raises the spectre of Cathay one day being a mainland-controlled firm,” said Hong Kong’s South China Morning Post, adding that “mainland airlines are not highly regarded here.”

Bad news for coffee drinkers who get headaches

People who consume high amounts of caffeine each day are more likely to suffer occasional headaches than those with low caffeine consumption, a team of researchers at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) reports in a study recently published in the Journal of Headache Pain.

But in findings that had “no obvious reason”, the researchers, led by Knut Hagen from NTNU’s Faculty of Medicine, also reported that low caffeine consumption was associated with a greater likelihood of chronic headaches, defined as headaches for 14 or more days each month.

Small boys at greatest risk of dog bites

Children ages 5-9 — especially boys — are at greatest risk of dog bites, a US veterinarian says.

Dr Kate Stenske of the University of Kansas says small boys are probably at most risk due to their size and proximity to dogs, their loud noises, fast movements, unintentional provoking and lack of understanding of dogs’ body language.

Usually, the boys’ injuries are usually the most serious from pet bites, Stenske says.

“Wounds that are most likely to become infected are those on the face and hands when people wait more than eight hours before seeking medical attention.” Stenske says in a statement. “If you are bitten, first wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water, and then call your physician right away.”

The great pumpkin is from Kentucky

A 1,145-pound pumpkin from the “Kentucky Pumpkin Mafia” came in first place at the Giant Pumpkin Contest at the Indiana State Fair, officials said.

The Indianapolis Star reported John Van Hook, 42, of Somerset Kentucky grew the winning pumpkin. Van Hook’s brother, a fellow pumpkin grower, also attended the Indianapolis fair sporting a hat emblazoned with “Kentucky Pumpkin Mafia.”

It was the second year in a row Kentuckians won top awards at the Indiana fair.

Kentuckians have some advantage over the Indiana growers because their warm season starts earlier, admitted Dwight Slone of Prestonsburg, Ky Slone and his wife, Karen, entered a pumpkin weighing 1,126 pounds that took second place.

One Northern Indiana grower agreed. “They start their growing the first of April because they can, because it’s warm down there, whereas up north I can’t start mine until the end of April,” said Roger Howard, 61, of Grovetown.
Information Minister meets locals from Pale Township of Monywa District

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Aug—Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, on 21 August, met with local people from villages in Pale Township of Monywa District, Sagaing Division. First, the minister met with locals at Kokkogon village. The minister asked progress of and difficulty in cultivation and attended to the needs. He also provided students and self-reliant library of the village with exercise books, clothing and publications and periodicals.

The minister then met with villagers of Hnawkan village and attended to the needs for cultivation of the village. The minister donated exercise books for students and publications and periodicals for self-reliant library of the village. He encouraged the students and coordinated essentials for production of monsoon crops, difficulties in cultivation and preparations for winter crops.

The minister then fulfilled the requirements for renovation of creek-crossing-bridge and drinking water tank in Kokkogon village, providing of cash-assistance for assistant teachers of Basic Education Post Primary School in Latpukan village, renovation of Hnawkan village Basic Education Primary School. The minister urged the locals to read at village self-reliant libraries so as to cultivate reading habit which may help them broaden the scope of knowledge. The minister continued that parents, teachers and students are to join hands for emergence of able and bright educated youth. The minister urged the locals to strive for improvement of socio-economic status by cultivating perennial crops that are suitable to the regions while raising poultry. The minister then cordially greeted the locals.

113th meeting of Bank Supervisory Committee and Myanmar Banks Association held

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Aug—The 113th meeting of Bank Supervisory Committee and Myanmar Banks Association under Ministry of Finance and Revenue took place at the meeting hall of the ministry, here, this morning. It was attended by Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe, Governor U Than Nyein of Central Bank of Myanmar, directors-general and managing directors of departments under Ministry of Finance and Revenue, chairman, managing directors and executive members of State banks and private banks.

The minister said that State banks and private banks are to collectively strive to improve banking services, officials concerned are to make efforts through strong foundation resources in line with related laws, rules and regulations, for effective use of modern technology and e-Banking System, for making efforts on banking services in fair way.

Next, the deputy minister and governor of Central Bank of Myanmar discussed on banking tasks. The executive members of Myanmar Bank Association and officials also took part in the discussion. The directors-general of State banks and chairman and managing directors of private banks reported matters on banking undertakings for present month.

The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks by the minister.—MNA

Chairman of Kayah State PDC attends coordination meeting, inspects regional development tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Aug—Chairman of Kayah State Peace and Development Council Brig-Gen Win Myint attended the work coordination meeting on construction of roads and bridges at the meeting hall of Kayah state in Loikaw on 5 August. At the meeting, officials reported on progress of work, and the Chairman gave instructions.

On 6 August, the chairman attended the opening ceremony of nutritional week activity at the City Hall and delivered a speech on the occasion.

On 8 August, he also inspected the construction work of the 50-bed ward of Bawlake people’s hospital.

The chairman viewed development of Monghtan village on 9 August.

MNA

Talks on Traffic Rules held

YANGON, 24 Aug—A ceremony to educate traffic rules under the arrangement of Mon State Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee was held at No-1 Basic Education High School in Mawlamyine Township on 15 August. First, Headmaster U Soe Myint delivered an address and then member of State TRESC Police Captain Myint Aye, (traffic incharge) Police Sub-Inpector Aung Naing and Police Sub-Inpector Aung Naing explained the traffic rules.

Police Captain Myint Aye, (traffic incharge) presented educative VCD and pamphlets through the headmaster. Afterwards, Traffic Police Members showed photos on traffic rules.

Police Captain Myint Aye, in charge of traffic, and party under the arrangement of Mon State TRESC will give talks at Basic Education Schools in 6 Townships in Mawlamyine District and 4 Townships in Thaton District.—MNA
The Prime Minister attended a ceremony to collectively grow long staple cotton by 41 farmers in the 50-acre land in Yesagyo Township, Pakokku District. He next met with the local people of Sitha, Myaybyu, Minkan, Gwaycho, Taungsin and Hsinchaung villages.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister visited Panyin Village in Pekon Village-tract and met with farmers transplating on the 150-acre rice field which is being irrigated by pumping water from 25 tube-wells.

Irrigated by water from tube wells, a total of 10,750 acres in Yesagyo Township have been put under paddy and over 3,000 tube-wells have been sunk in Pakokku Township.

In the afternoon, the Prime Minister and party cordially greeted the patients receiving eyes and oral treatment provided by a special medical team led by Deputy Director-General of the Health Department Dr. Kyi Myint. Afterwards, they presented eye glasses to the patients and contributed cash to the funds of the hospital through the medical superintendent.

At the meeting with departmental officials at the office of Pale Township Peace and Development Council, the Prime Minister asked the officials and townsenders on education and agricultural sectors of the region.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan reported to the Prime Minister on the extended irrigation system after completion of Myauk Yama Dam in 1995-96, prospects for more rice fields if one more irrigation cannel is constructed in the region and requirements for the education sector in the region. Lt-Gen Tha Aye and Commander Maj-Gen Myint Soe also reported to the Prime Minister.

After hearing reports, the Prime Minister gave necessary instructions to responsible officials.

After the meeting, the Prime Minister visited a ceremony to plant rice on the rain-fed 100-acre rice field near Kokkosu Village in Lattunggyi Village-tract in Pale Township. During the ceremony, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan reported to the Prime Minister on prospects for irrigating the fields in Pale township from Taung Yama and Myauk Yama dams.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister viewed the samples of fertilizer, paddy strains, seedlings and power-tillers.

After the ceremony, the Prime Minister and party visited the 520-acre model paddy field in Lengau village-tract of Yinmabin Township. They presented gifts to local farmers.

The Prime Minister and entourage, accompanied by Sagaing Division PDC Chairman Maj-Gen Myint Soe and officials, visited Aung Theikdi briquette factory in Monywa at 7.45 am. U Nyunt Lwin, incharge of the factory, conducted them round the factory.

The factories’ briquettes made of sawdust burn longer than ordinary briquettes without producing any smell, smoke and sparks.

The Prime Minister went to Laygyunsekkya Standing Buddha Image in Monywa Township through Monywa Union Highway and

(See page 9)
Importance of efficient use of water from the dams, …

(from page 8)

Monywa-Mandalay Road and offered flowers, water and lights to the Buddha image in the chamber.

The Prime Minister strolled around the image clockwise to pay homage to it. Next, the Prime Minister inspected tasks for greening Maha Bodhi Tahtaung.

At the briefing hall, the pagoda board of trustees for long-term development of the image, and designation of Bodhi Tahtaung Road by car. He visited the Ngwechi (6) long staple cotton farm and the mixed

Prime Minister General Thein Sein inspects cultivation of paddy at Thukaungte field in Thidauk village of NyaungU Township.—MNA

On arrival at Ohndaw Main Power Supply Station of the Myanmar Electric Main Power Enterprise under the Ministry of Electric Power (2) near Ohndaw Village in Sagain Township, the Prime Minister heard reports by Minister for Electric Power (2) Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and officials on Belin-Ohndaw-Nyaungbingyi 230 KV Grid Project and progress in building power supply stations.

After giving directives on power supply tasks, the Prime Minister viewed the construction of Ohndaw Main Power Supply Station.

He observed progress in building Thiri Mingala Overpass in Sagain. On

He visited the Ngwechi (6) long staple cotton farm. (2) near Ohndaw Village in Salingyi Township, the Ministry of Electric Power (2) Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint gave an account of constructing the approach bridge on Mandalay side. The Prime Minister gave instructions and attended to the needs. At the meetings he held with local farmers in NyaungU Township in Mandalay Division, Yesagyo Township in Magway Division, and Pale, Yinmabin and Sagaing townships in Sagaing Division, the Prime Minister stressed the importance of efficient use of water from the dams, river water pumping stations and tube-wells the government had constructed in the arid regions.

He called for expeditious use of arable lands and multiple-water sources, diverting farmlands into paddy fields, cultivation of cash crops through multiple-cropping pattern, boosting per acre yields of crops, practice of integrated farming and ensuring rice sufficiency of townships.

He noted that other sectors especially industrial sector would make progress only through agricultural development.

He said that he was pleased to see service personnel working hard at the river water pumping stations and called for healthy competition between one station and another for more effective use of irrigation water and boosting per acre yields of crops.

He urged local people
Upgrading Yangon for cleanliness and proper flow of water

Article & Photos: Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)

Asian region set the layout plans of their towns like that of Yangon. The Leading Committee for Beautifying and Upgrading Yangon and Yangon City Development Committee is keeping Yangon clean and pleasant with added momentum to possess characteristics of major cities of global countries.

Recently, I looked into upgrading of roads and bridges, maintenance of pavements and drains and proper flow of water being undertaken by Engineering Department (Road and Bridge) of YCDC in Yangon.

First, I viewed beautiful Tawwin Overpass on Sule Pagoda Road near the City Hall. Tawwin Overpass is located in the downtown traffic area. It is built with roofs, two 52 feet by six feet stairs and one 52 feet by 3.5 feet stair. The stairs were designed by Engineering Department (Road and Bridge) of YCDC. The bridge attracts the people to avoid the traffic jam area. I saw many pedestrians using the bridge across Sule Pagoda Road.

At Banyadalala Road in front of Yuzana Plaza in Tamway Township, I witnessed workers and staff of YCDC upgrading the road section in the overflow drainage area and digging a 700 feet long, four feet wide and six feet deep drain.

In order to prevent flooding in the rainy season, they were upgrading the shoulders along 1200 feet long North Horse Race Course Road between Tamway and Yankin townships.

Moreover, I viewed construction of a reinforced concrete new Moegaung Bridge across Khunnap-lein Creek and renovation of the pavements at 8th mile junction.

I have learned that Engineering Department (Road and Bridge) of Yangon City Development Committee is upgrading the road sections and carrying out major maintenance tasks. As Yangon is located in the lower Myanmar region, tasks are being undertaken for ensuring proper flow of drains, creeks and rivers due to heavy rains.

Indeed, the upgrading of roads in the wards is important for development of a major city.

Therefore, a total of 167 roads stretching 293,474 feet long in various wards of respective townships in Yangon are being upgraded to the tarred roads from the earth works in the 2009-2010 financial years. Of them, 62 roads have so far been upgraded. Likewise, six out of 16 bridges have been completed.

On completion of Pyinnyaung Cement Plant being built in Thazi Township of Mandalay Division by Yangon City Development Committee, all the roads in Yangon will be upgraded with asphalt concrete.

As such, the dwellers of Yangon have to take part as good citizens in the task to constantly keep the town clean and pleasant.

Translation: TTA
Kyemon: 22-8-2009
China to host world philosophy congress in September

BEIJING, 24 Aug—China will host the 24th World Congress of the International Association for Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy (IVR) in September.

It will be the first time that China has hosted the IVR World Congress since it was established in 1909 in Germany.

The biennial congress with the theme “Global harmony and rule of law” will be held in Beijing from Sept. 15 to 20, according to the China Law Society (CLS), which is hosting the event.

“We hope the congress will not only give greater voice to traditions and contemporary thinking in eastern countries, but also suggest new dimensions of collaboration among eastern and western scholars,” said CLS director Han Zhubin on Monday.

Thousands of philosophers and legal experts from around the world are expected to gather in China to exchange ideas concerning relations among nations, and between cultures and legal systems, said Han.

The last congress was held in Poland in 2007.

Xinhua

Space shuttle launch visible from east coast

WASHINGTON, 24 Aug—People in the eastern United States will get a great opportunity, weather permitting, to see the space shuttle Discovery launched into orbit early Tuesday morning. And it might also be the final opportunity ever to see a nighttime shuttle launch.

This flight (STS-128) will be the 30th to rendezvous and dock with the International Space Station (ISS), and the glow of the shuttle’s engines will be visible along much of the Eastern Seaboard.

A SPACE.com map shows the area of visibility.

To reach the space station, Discovery must be launched when Earth’s rotation carries the launch pad into the plane of the station’s orbit. For mission STS-128, that will happen at 1:36:05 a.m. ET on Tuesday, resulting (if all goes as planned) in NASA’s second nighttime launch of a space shuttle in 2009 (the most recent was March 15).—Internet

Nokia to make laptop, jumping on wireless trend

NEW YORK, 24 Aug—Nokia Corp., the world’s largest maker of cell phones, said on Monday that it will start making a small, light laptop, similar to ones PC manufacturers are already selling through wireless carriers around the world.

The Finnish company says the Nokia Booklet 3G will run Microsoft Corp.’s Windows software, have a 10-inch screen and weigh 2.8 pounds. That puts it squarely in the “netbook” category pioneered by Taiwanese manufacturers like AsusTek Computer Inc.

Nokia said it would reveal the price and launch date of the PC on Sept. 2. Most netbooks sell for less than $500.

Nokia said its PC would be “satisfying a need” among wireless carriers. AT&T Inc and Verizon Wireless have started selling netbooks in their stores, subsidizing the purchase for customers who sign up for wireless broadband plans. Sprint Nextel Corp. has started subsidizing netbooks sold at Best Buy. In Europe, many carriers started selling netbooks last year.—Internet

Chinese vice premier urges more efforts to fight flood, drought

BEIJING, 24 Aug—Chinese Vice Premier Hui Liangyu called for greater efforts to fight floods and droughts on Monday at a meeting held by the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters.

Hui said governments at all levels should place priority on ensuring people’s safety and taking care of people in disaster-hit regions.

Local governments were urged to take measures to combat droughts and floods in major grain production bases and to step up monitoring of freak weather.

A severe drought has affected north China since late July as a result of insufficient rainfall and continued high temperatures, while heavy rains and typhoons have battered some other parts of the country.—Xinhua
AIDED BY WARMER SUMMERS THAT DON'T KILL OFF BEETLE LARVAE

The spruce bark beetle, 6 millimetres (25 inch) long, has devastated the forests of southwest Yukon, aided by warmer summers that speed up its reproductive process and warmer winters that don’t kill off beetle larvae as in the past.

Internet

Blood test detects boxer brain damage

GOTHENBURG, 24 Aug—Swedish and Turkish researchers, in a study of amateur boxers, found nerve cell deterioration may occur even after a two-month break from boxing.

Researchers at the Sahlgrenska Academy and the Erciyes University Medical School in Turkey said the findings constitute further evidence that repeated blows to the head may damage the brain. A blood test can now be used to detect brain damage in amateur boxers, the researchers said.

The study involved 44 Turkish amateur boxers, whose blood samples were collected in the beginning of a training camp after a two-month break from boxing. The results were compared to those found in a healthy control group.

Henrik Zetterberg of the Sahlgrenska Academy and Erciyes University Medical School in Turkey said the findings could undermine any recovery.

INTERNET

Roubini warns of double-dip recession

NEW YORK, 24 Aug—Nouriel Roubini, one of the few economists who accurately predicted the magnitude of the world’s recent financial troubles, sees a “big risk” of a double-dip recession, according to an opinion piece posted on the Financial Times website on Sunday.

Roubini, a professor at New York University’s Stern School of Business, said it appears the global economy will bottom out in the second half of this year, and that US and western European economies will likely experience “anemic” and “below trend” growth for at least a couple of years.

Yet he warned that policymakers face a “damned if they do, damned if they don’t” conundrum in trying to unwind their massive fiscal and monetary stimuli to keep the global economy from toppling into a recession.

He said that if policymakers try to fight rising budget deficits by raising taxes and cutting spending, they would be fighting “a big risk” of a double-dip recession, according to a “big risk” of a double-dip recession, according to an opinion piece posted on the Financial Times website on Sunday.

INTERNET

Double threat in warming world

HARRES JUNCTION, 24 Aug—A veil of smoke settled over the forest in the shadow of the St Elias Mountains, in a wilderness whose spruce trees stood tall and gray, a deadly gray earthed in Turkey so far, Caneva was quoted as saying.

Internet

DOUBLE THREAT IN WARMING WORLD
Surfers get vaccines against hepatitis A

SAN DIEGO, 24 Aug—Some 75 surfers and bodyboarders frequent Imperial Beach near San Diego signed up for free hepatitis A shots, a spokeswoman for a program co-sponsor said.

Imperial Beach has attracted avid surfers since before the pier was built in 1963, surfer Jim Knox, 61, said.

“I think (the vaccine) is an excellent idea for everyone because I know not everyone stays out of the water when they’re supposed to,” Knox told The San Diego Union-Tribune.

Paloma Aguirre, spokeswoman for Wildcoast, a not-for-profit environmental group, said her organization’s goal is to educate the public to obey the signs to stay out of the water.

The danger of disease from the water off Imperial Beach was discovered three years ago by San Diego State University researchers who found hepatitis A in 80 percent of water samples taken off the pier.

Wildcoast, which co-sponsored the vaccinations with the health center, found three out of five regular ocean uses in Imperial Beach suffered illnesses caused by water contamination.

The contamination, the university found, comes from northbound ocean currents funneling polluted water from the Tijuana River.

Low vitamin D raises diabetic heart risk

ST LOUIS, 24 Aug—Diabetics deficient in vitamin D can’t process cholesterol so it builds in blood vessels, increasing heart attack and stroke risk, US researchers said.

Principal investigator Dr Carlos Bernal-Mizrachi, a Washington University endocrinologist at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St Louis, said when people are deficient in vitamin D the macrophage cells—dispatched by the immune system in response to inflammation—eat more cholesterol, which they can’t get rid of.

“Vitamin D inhibits the uptake of cholesterol by cells called macrophages,” Bernal-Mizrachi said in a statement.

“The macrophages get clogged with cholesterol and become what scientists call foam cells, which are one of the earliest markers of atherosclerosis.”

The researchers studied macrophage cells taken from people with and without diabetes, and with and without vitamin D deficiency. When vitamin D levels were low in the culture dish, macrophages from diabetic patients were much more likely to become foam cells.

The study, published in the journal Circulation, found vitamin D regulates signaling pathways linked both to uptake and to clearance of cholesterol in macrophages.

Camp for kids with cancer

ASPEN, 24 Aug—A group of Aspen property-owners are battling a plan that could keep bringing children with cancer to a camp in the Colorado mountain resort.

Andrea Jaeger, a former child tennis star, founded the Little Star Foundation, which owns a 6.5-acre property used for the camp. City officials approved her plan to sell the property to the Chabad Jewish Community Center for $13.5 million, while allowing the camp to continue there for a few weeks in the summer, The Denver Post reported.

Rabbi Mendel Mintz of the Chabad Centre called it a “deal made in heaven.” But the Still-Water Homeowners Association, threatening a lawsuit, says the only allowable uses for the property are a residence or the camp, not a synagogue, daycare centre and community rooms.

Mangrove destruction threatens food supply

ANTANANARIVO, 24 Aug—Much of coastal Africa’s food supply is being threatened by the destruction of swamps, mangrove forests, NASA scientists warn.

The groves are being destroyed by pollution, real estate development, and deforestation necessary to sustain large-scale commercial shrimp farming, Lola Fatoyinbo, an environmental scientist with NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory, said on Friday in a release.

The groves are essential breeding grounds for fish and shellfish in tropical African countries such as Mozambique and Madagascar, she said.

Satellite studies conducted by Fatoyinbo and her team show more than half of coastal Africa’s mangrove forests have disappeared in the last 50 years, with a third of them disappearing in the last 20 years alone.

Mangrove forests are important for rice farming, fishing, timber, firewood and aqua culture in coastal Africa, with some nations increasingly depending on them for eco-tourism, she said.

India reports 64th death from A/H1N1 flu

NEW DELHI, 24 Aug—A 48-year-old man died of A/H1N1 flu on Saturday at the SSG hospital in Gujarat, western India, raising the number of fatalities from the flu in India to 64, said health officials.

Hasmukh Hingu was admitted to hospital three days ago because he was suffering from respiratory distress syndrome, said health officials.

After being tested positive for A/H1N1 flu on Saturday, he died on Sunday morning after his illness developed very quickly, said the officials.

Influenza A/H1N1-related death cases rise to 16 in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 24 Aug—A woman who died in an Auckland hospital last week has been confirmed as New Zealand’s 16th influenza A/H1N1 victim, the Ministry of Health said on Monday.

The ministry said although the woman had suffered underlying medical conditions, her case would be counted among those where the H1N1 virus was deemed the primary cause of death.

There were other deaths also under investigation by the coroner, the ministry said.

More than 3,000 people have tested positive for influenza A/H1N1, but the number of those infected is much higher as most people do not require medical treatment.

Vietnam’s A/H1N1 flu cases increase to over 2,000

HANOI, 24 Aug—The Vietnamese Ministry of Health confirmed 271 cases of A/H1N1 influenza in the country over the weekend, raising total number of flu patients to 2,014, local newspaper the People reported on Monday.

Most of the new cases are in the southern part of the country, said the ministry.

So far, 1,198 patients have recovered and been discharged from hospitals. The rest are being quarantined and treated.

Vietnam has reported two deaths of A/H1N1 influenza since the first case was confirmed in the country.
Barcelona wins Spanish Super Cup

MADRID, 24 Aug—Lionel Messi scored two second half goals Sunday to help Barcelona beat Athletic Bilbao 3-0 for the Spanish Super Cup trophy. The Spanish giant, who completed a historic treble-winning campaign last season, secured their eighth Super Cup at 5-1 on aggregate following 2-1 win in the first leg a week ago. The Camp Nou was desperate for Zlatan Ibrahimovic — Barca’s most expensive ever signing — to score his first goal in the famous blue and white shirt. He almost did so on the half hour with a spectacular volley.

Federer downs Djokovic to win Cincinnati Masters

CINCINNATI, 24 Aug—World number one Roger Federer defeated fourth-seeded Novak Djokovic 6-1, 7-5 to win the Cincinnati Masters title Sunday and cement his status as favourite for the upcoming US Open. Federer set the tone in the second game of the match, when Djokovic saved six break points but still couldn’t ward off the break of serve. “A good start always helps,” said Federer. “That was the case today.”

When Djokovic finally held serve in the sixth game of the match he could only look at the sky and smile.

Redknapp’s Tottenham eye top-four finish

LONDON, 24 Aug—Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp believes his side are ready to nail down a place in the Premier League’s top four after making their best start to a season for 49 years.

Aaron Lennon’s late strike at West Ham on Sunday sealed by a goal in each half from Drogba and Anelka has tinkered with Chelsea’s system, converting his midfield into a diamond formation and challenging Drogba and Anelka to dovetail neatly up front. The results have been spectacular.

Ancelotti expects great things from Drogba and Anelka

LONDON, 24 Aug—Carlo Ancelotti believes Didier Drogba and Nicolas Anelka’s revitalised partnership will strike fear into the hearts of Chelsea’s Premier League title rivals. The Italian manager saw his new charges extend their perfect start to the season with a 2-0 victory at Fulham on Sunday, sealed by a goal in each half from Drogba and Anelka.

The pair have not always gelled successfully during their time together at Stamford Bridge. But former AC Milan coach Ancelotti has tinkered with Chelsea’s system, converting his midfield into a diamond formation and challenging Drogba and Anelka to dovetail neatly up front. The results have been spectacular.

Champions Inter held by newboys Bari as Juve win

ROME, 24 Aug—Defending champions Inter Milan were held to a surprise 1-1 draw at home to promoted Bari at the San Siro on Sunday in their first match of the new Serie A season.

But rivals Juventus got off to a winning start as Vincenzo Iaquinta scored the only goal in a 1-0 home success against Chievo. Cameron forward Samuel Eto’o scored his first goal for Inter since joining from Barcelona in a swap deal that saw Zlatan Ibrahimovic head to Spain, but Vitaly Kutuzov’s equaliser earned the plucky Serie A newboys a deserved share of the spoils.

Inter coach Jose Mourinho picked new signings Eto’o and Diego Milito up front together but they could not fire the champions to victory. “We have the quality to do well, we played a great game but we didn’t have the luck needed to score a second goal and make the game safe,” moaned the Portuguese boss.

Everton agree Loscett fee with City

LIVERPOOL, 24 Aug—Everton on Sunday confirmed they have agreed a fee with English Premier League rivals Manchester City for the sale of defender Joleon Lescott. City have agreed to pay £12 million for the player. Earlier, Everton manager David Moyes took a fine swipe at City over the affair. Asked after his side’s 1-0 defeat at Burnley on Sunday if the Lescott deal was well advanced Moyes said: “If they (City) say they are quite far on I’m sure they are.”

UEFA European Women’s Championship 2009 starts in Finland

HELSINKI, 24 Aug—UEFA European Women’s Championship 2009 kicked off in Finland on Sunday, with the Netherlands and Finland beating their opponents in group matches.

The opening group A match was held in Turku, southwestern Finland on Sunday afternoon. The Netherlands beat Ukraine 2-0 with two early strikes within nine minutes of the first half. Another match of Group A was staged on Sunday evening in Helsinki, in which host Finland made a perfect start for the Championship, securing a victory against Denmark with defender Maija Saarainen’s goal.

Defending champion Germany will make its debut in this Championship on Monday, in an encounter with Norway, also one of the most successful teams in the tournament’s history. The UEFA European Women’s Championship 2009 will be played in Helsinki, Tampere, Turku and Lahti of Finland between 23 Aug and 10 Sept, with the participation of women’s national soccer teams from 12 European countries.
China to hold biggest maritime rescue drill for World Expo

HANGZHOU, 24 Aug—China’s maritime rescue services will stage their biggest ever rescue drill in the East China Sea next month, an official with Zhejiang Provincial Maritime Bureau said on Monday.

The drill, jointly held by the Ministry of Transport and east China’s Zhejiang Province, will involve 35 ships, three aircraft and more than 1,000 personnel.

No exact timetable was given.

The drill would test maritime rescue capabilities and security for the Shanghai World Expo in 2010, said He Yipei, deputy director of the Zhejiang provincial maritime bureau.

The 90-minute exercise would simulate a collision between a passenger ship and a cargo vessel loaded with chemicals, and a fire on the vessel.

Drill with care

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring areas

WEATHER

Monday, 24 August, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah State and Magway Division, scattered in Kayin State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in lower Sagaing Division and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavyfalls in Magway, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawthong (5.36) inches, Yangon (Central) (3.66) inches, Katha (2.36) inches, Heho (2.04) inches, HMawbi (1.77) inches and Pakokku (1.54) inches.

Maximum temperature on 23-8-2009 was 91°F. Minimum temperature on 24-8-2009 was 70°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 24-8-2009 was 84%.

Total Sun shine hours on 23-8-2009 was (26.9) hours approx.

Rainfall on 24-8-2009 was (0.75)inch at Mingaladon, (0.09)inch at Kaba-Aye and (3.66) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (82.05) inches at Mingaladon, (93.46) inches at Kaba-Aye and (97.48) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from South at (17:20) hours MST on 23-8-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 25th August 2009:

Rain or thundershowers will be isolated to scattered in Kayah State, lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Divisions, fairly widespread in Shan, Kayin States and Ayeyawady 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: Moderate monsoon.

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Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate monsoon.
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

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

Upgrading Yangon for cleanliness and proper flow of water

Orchids and fungi—partners for life

Three Thai orchids have been found to rely on a wide range of fungi to help them take carbon out of the soil instead of producing their own organic carbon. A detailed study of the relationship, published in the open access journal *BMC Biology*, also features stunning pictures of the plants.

Marc-André Selosse and Mélanie Roy, from the Centre d’Ecologie Fonctionnelle et Evolutive, Montpellier, France, studied Aphyllorchis montana, A. caudata and Cephalanthera exigua orchids with Suyanee Vessabutr and Santi Watthana from the Queen Sirikit Botanic Garden, Thailand. — Internet

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.

Flood bulletin

According to the 12:30 hr MST observation today, the water level of the Chindwin River at Homalin is 2905 cm and it has exceeded by 5 cm above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level (2900) cm during the next 48 hours commencing noon today.

And the water level of the Sittoung River at Madauk is 1078 cm and it has exceeded by 8 cm above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level 1070 cm during the next 24 hours commencing noon today.—MNA