Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspects development tasks of Pale, Yinmabin Townships

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence on 9 September met servicemen and family members at the local battalion in Gangaw Township and presented gifts to them. Accompanied by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe and officials, Lt-Gen Tha Aye comforted patients at Gangaw Township People’s Hospital and visited X-ray room, medical store and viewed construction of two-storey 100-bed RC medical ward and new operation theatre. They looked into development of Gangaw, conditions of Gangaw-Yemyetni road section, thriving monsoon paddy plantations and development of villages. (See page 10)

Laukkai: a town with border posts upstream of River Thanlwin

Laukkai Township included in Laukkai District of Shan State (North) is located at the North-East corner of Myanmar, at the border with the People’s Republic of China, sharing borders with Kongyang Township and the People’s Republic of China in the north, the People’s Republic of China in the east, Kunlong Township in the south and Kutkai Township in the west. There are 31 border posts in Laukkai Township.

The township is situated 3100 feet above sea level. The region has mountain ranges with an altitude of 3000 feet to 6000 feet. Few plains can be seen in Laukkai, Mangtongpa, Yanlongkyaing, Pasinkyaw and Namhhtan regions and the remaining regions are mountainous. Laukkai got a total rainfall of 39.10 inches during 65 days from January to 7 September in 2009. The township has an area of 316.96 square miles with the population of 72840. The township relied on springs since there is no stream, river, lake and pond there.

Trees such as clogwood, chestnut, hnw, etc. which are suitable to the topography of the region are grown in the township and the local people are engaged in growing of such poppy-substitute perennial crops as rubber, lychee, mango, walnut and pear. Moreover local people grow sugarcane and pineapple as annual crops and paddy, corn, buckwheat, soybean, various kinds of pulses and beans and vegetables.

There is no forest reserve in Laukkai Township. It has 22183 acres of protected public forest area and forest land. Hamaliton’s carps and Tilapia are bred at the 17-acre fish farm.

Local people deal with the businesses of breeding mule, horse, cattle, pig, chicken and goose. Wild animals such as hog-deer, sambur, goral and monkey can be seen in the township.

The famous buildings in the township are Myanmar-Kokang National Hotel built with the shares of local national races, Three Star Hotel, Phuli Light Hotel and buildings of Myanmar-Kokang National Services Co Ltd and Seven-tiered building, Yin Phone Hotel, Palsein Hotel and Drug Elimination Museum. Kokang Hotel and Three Star Hotel in Laukkai in Zamani Myothit and surrounding areas, Sanshinn Hotel and nearby places, Floating Garden in East Myothit and Drug Elimination Museum, Maha Yan Wall near Myanmar-China Border are popular and places of attraction. (See page 7)

Laukkai remains hustle and bustle with activities as evidenced by internal roads coping with constant flow of traffic.
Maintain and preserve ancient cultural objects

Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department is working hard to fill historical gaps of Myanmar and has given a lot of evidence of ancient history.

The department excavated Myaukle Village in Mahtal Township, Meiktila District, Mandalay Division, from 10 June to 9 July in order to find out cultural evidence of the Bronze Age and Iron Age of Myanmar. The excavation of Nyaungkan region in Burin Township in 1998 led to exposing the Bronze Age of Myanmar, which had been a gap in its history.

Archaeological research has been conducted annually since 1990. And up to date, 22 human skeletons, 34 bronze spear heads including the ones with fibre cloth, 44 pieces of bronze ware such as pieces of bronze hand chains and bronze bells, four pieces of ironware including swords, 153 coloured marble beads, terra-cotta and animal skeletons in the Bronze and Iron Ages have been unearthed from Myaukle excavation site.

Reviewing the unearthed cultural objects, it is found that a human society with flourishing bronze and iron cultures once existed in that region for long, and this has been proved by the unearthed human skeletons and their utensils. It can also be estimated that the region did have sound economy with the knowledge of blacksmith, bronze casting and weaving and creative art.

The unearthed objects from Myaukle excavation site have discarded the assumption that Myanmar developed from the Stone Age to the Iron Age without the Bronze Age flourishing in its cultural evolution.

Overall, Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department is trying to unearth ancient cultural objects and the local people are to maintain and preserve those cultural objects with national outlook.

14th ISD Judo Tournament kicks off

YANGON, 12 Sept—Jointly-organized by Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanmar Judo Federation, the opening of 14th Inter-State/Division Judo Tournament was held at Aung San Gymnasium here this afternoon attended by officials of the Ministry of Sports, Chairperson of the central working committee of Myanmar Women’s Judo Federation Daw Aye Aye, General Secretary Daw L Htaik delivers an address at 14th Inter-State/Division Judo Tournament.—MNA

Vice-Mayor inspects regional development tasks

YANGON, 12 Sept—Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa this morning inspected progress of laying concrete on Shukhintha circular road in East Seikkyi ward and the site for construction of Township Library in Seikkyi-khanauhto Township in Yangon South District. He then viewed Aungmingla Lake-2 and Aungthapay concrete road.

Khnun Yi and responsible persons, Chairman of Tatmadaw Judo Subcommittee Col San Myint Oo and officials, Patron of MWSF and patron of Myanmar Judo Federation Daw Myint Myint Aye and members and guests.

First, Defending Champions Yangon Division Men’s Judo team and Mon State Women’s Judo team handed over championship shields to General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General U Thaung Htaik of SPED. He inspected self-reliant jetty at East Seikkyi-khanauhto and fulfilled the requirements.

The vice-mayor visited Township Hospital and he presented cash assistance to the patients. —MNA

Commander, carry out regional development tasks

YANGON, 12 Sept—Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe on 6 September met with local people of Tattaung Village in An Township and presented clothes for the villages, journals and books for library, exercise books, medical equipment for the hospital and sarongs for the social organizations. They also visited six villages of Taikmaw Village-tract and attended to the needs.

At An Basic Education High School No. 2, they awarded outstanding students in the matriculation examination for 2008-2009 academic year in An Township.

Officials also presented prizes to the distinction winners.

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe donated one computer set each to BEHS No. 1 and No. 2.—MNA

Saw Mill, teak plantations inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on 8 September inspected No. 23 Saw Mill of Domestic Trade and Saw Mill Division in Kyaukphu of Kyauk-padaung Township.

The minister viewed maintenance of heavy machinery at the Base Workshop (Pya). On 9 September, the minister looked into thriving 100-acre teak plantation for 2008 of Dry Zone Greening Department in Taungdwingyi and gave necessary instructions.

In the afternoon, the minister inspected specific teak plantation of Forest Department in Kinmontaung forest reserve in Taungdwingyi. —MNA

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung inspecting Base Workshop (Pya) of Engineering Division. —MNA

People’s Desire

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

WASHINGTON, 12 Sept — A powerful US senator warned against sending more American troops to Afghanistan, signalling growing skepticism over the war within President Barack Obama’s own party.

Carl Levin, the influential chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, was the latest top Democrat in Congress to voice opposition to a fresh military build-up in Afghanistan, as the White House weighs deploying yet more combat troops.

But his comments came as the Pentagon confirmed it intended to send more troops to Afghanistan to tackle a growing threat from improvised explosive devices.

Levin called for redoubling efforts to bolster Afghan security forces before any further expansion in US troops, which are set to reach 68,000 by the end of the year.

“We should increase and accelerate our efforts to support the Afghan security forces in their efforts to become self-sufficient in delivering security to their nation — before we consider whether to increase US combat forces above the levels already planned for the next few months,” said Levin, who returned last week from a trip to Afghanistan. —Internet

Explosion wounds nine Afghan civilians in East KABUL, 12 Sept — Explosion in eastern Afghanistan’s Khost Province on Friday wounded nine people, all of them civilians, officials said.

“Nine wounded people, eight children and one adult, have been hospitalized,” director of health department in Khost City Abdul Majid told Xinhua.

Meanwhile, provincial police chief Gul Dad also confirmed the incident, saying the blast that occurred at 12:40 pm local time (GMT 2010) also damaged a shop.

Khost has been the scene of a series of bomb attacks over the past couple of months. —Internet

Seven police killed as Taleban raid checkpoint in N Afghanistan KABUL, 12 Sept — Seven policemen were killed Friday night as Taleban militants raided their checkpoint in northern Afghan province of Kunduz, an official said on Saturday.

“Anti-government militants raided a police checkpoint in Imam Sahib District on Friday night as a result seven police, including the chief Mohammad Hafiz, were killed,” Muhhamd Juma Khan told Xinhua.

He also added that two policemen, found missing after the battle, apparently had some links with Taleban.

Meantime, Zabihullah Mujahid, a purported spokesman for Taleban, said the rebels killed seven policemen while giving no word on the two missing police. —Xinhua

Dioxin levels high in Vietnam near US base HANOI, 12 Sept — New environmental tests confirm extremely high levels of dioxin, the toxic ingredient of Agent Orange, in people, fish and soil near a former US air base where American troops stored the herbicide during the Vietnam War. “Time is of the essence” to finish cleaning up the site, now home to the Danang airport, where dioxin levels in the soil, sediment and fish were 300 to 400 times higher than internationally accepted levels, the survey by the Canadian environmental firm Hatfield Consultants said.

The survey also found that temporary containment measures jointly implemented by the US and Vietnam in 2007 have apparently resulted in lower dioxin levels in people who live near the site. Agent Orange is perhaps the war’s most contentious legacy. Vietnam says 1 million to 4 million of its citizens were exposed to it and many suffered serious health consequences. The United States, which sprayed the herbicide on jungles to deprive Vietnamese troops of ground cover, says further scientific study is needed to fully understand the health links. —Internet

Putin opens door to return as Russia President NOVO-OGARYOVO (Russia), 12 Sept — Russia’s Vladimir Putin on Friday gave his strongest indication yet that he may run again for the presidency at the next election in 2012.

Ever since Putin’s presidential term expired last year and he made way for his chosen successor Dmitry Medvedev, there has been speculation the move was only temporary. Putin, now serving as prime minister, remains extremely popular among Russian voters despite the economic downturn and he continues to dominate the political scene.

Speaking to the Valdai discussion group of Russia experts, Putin said the transition at the top in 2007/8 had been a smooth one and there would not be any competition between himself and Medvedev in 2012. “We share political views.”

“In 2012 we shall think together and take into account the realities of the time, our personal plans, the political landscape...and we will take a decision,” he said. Internet

Chavez says buying Russian short-range missiles CARACAS 12 Sept — Venezuela’s leftist President Hugo Chavez said on Friday that his country is buying Russian missiles with a range of 300 kilometres (186 miles) as part of a series of arms deals with Moscow. Chavez, who on Friday returned from a ten-day tour of Africa, Asia and Europe that included a visit to Russia, is also negotiating the purchase of 100 T-72 and T-90 tanks from Moscow.

“We signed some military agreements with Russia. Well, soon some little rockets are going to be arriving,” he said during a speech to supporters from a balcony at the presidential palace upon his return to Venezuela.

“Do you know how far they reach? 300 kilometres, and they don’t fail.” Chavez is currently embroiled in a diplomatic crisis with neighbouring Colombia over a security agreement that will allow US troops access to more Colombian bases to fight drug traffickers and left-wing guerrillas. Chavez, a fierce critic of US foreign policy, says the US-Colombia plan will increase the risk of war in South America and could be used to launch an attack on Venezuela. —Internet

Stuff clean the ruins in Istanbul, northwestern Turkey, on 10 Sept, 2009. —Xinhua

Explosion wounds nine Afghan civilians in East

A resident carries a seat past a destroyed home following a truck bomb in the village of Wardak, southeast of the restive city of Mosul, 370kms from Baghdad. A suicide truck bomber triggered a massive blast in a Kurdish village in northern Iraq as residents slept early on Thursday, flattening homes and killing at least 22 people, officials said.—Internet
Recovery signs emerge in financial crisis-hit developing countries

DALIAN, 12 Sept—About one year after the financial crisis began to affect the whole world, signs of economic recovery have emerged in certain developing countries although they still face various great difficulties in mitigating the unexpected impact of the crisis.

Mahmoud Mohieddln, Minister of Investment of Egypt, said at the ongoing Summer Davos forum in Dalian, northeast China’s Liaoning Province, that his country had seen a drop of 20 percent to 25 percent in foreign direct investment (FDI) in its most difficult period compared with the average of the past five years.

But the country has shown signs of economic growth recovery such as the increase of FDI in the past few months, according to the Egyptian investment official.

Lim Guan Eng, chief minister of Penang, Malaysia, said the global financial crisis affected a lot the country’s economy which relies much on exports and thus made it necessary to reform.

China slams US tyre tariffs, threatens retaliation

BEIJING, 12 Sept—Beijing lashed out at the US on Saturday after Washington slapped steep tariffs on imported Chinese tyres, calling the measure “protectionist” and threatening retaliation in China’s first trade spat with the Obama administration.

“China is firmly opposed to this measure of serious commercial protectionism by the United States, which not only violates world trade rules but also the undertakings given by the US at the G20,” commerce ministry spokesman Yao Jian said in statements posted on the ministry’s website. “In the context of the global economic crisis this sets a very bad example. China reserves the right to retaliate,” he said.

The comments come after the White House announced punitive duties of an additional 35 percent on Chinese-made tyres just weeks before Barack Obama is due to host his Chinese counterpart Hu Jintao at the G20 summit in November.—Xinhua

WHO says A/H1N1 flu has killed over 3,000

GENEVA, 12 Sept—At least 3,205 people worldwide have been killed by the A/H1N1 influenza since the new flu virus was identified in April, the World Health Organization (WHO) said in a latest update on Friday.

Of all the deaths, 2,467 occurred in the Americas, 306 in the West Pacific region. The other four WHO regional offices, South-East Asia, Europe, East Mediterranean and Africa reported 221, 125, 81 and 35 deaths respectively.

The WHO, which declared the A/H1N1 flu as a pandemic in June, said the total number of lab confirmed cases worldwide is now over 277,607, but this actually understates the real number of infections as countries are no longer required to test and report individual cases.—Xinhua

Workers at a Hangzhou rubber company are seen conducting quality control checks on the tyres at their factory. Beijing lashed out at the US on Saturday after Washington slapped steep tariffs on imported Chinese tyres, calling the measure “protectionist” and threatening retaliation in China’s first trade spat with the Obama administration.—Internet

Repsol reports major gas find off Venezuela

MADRID, 12 Sept—Spain’s biggest oil company, Repsol YPF SA, said on Friday it had made what could be its largest gas discovery off Venezuela, and one of the largest discoveries in the world, in an exploration partnership with Italy’s Eni.

The site could contain around 1.4 billion barrels of oil equivalent (BOE), a Repsol spokesman said, adding that tests were continuing and that the figure was provisional.

The amount would be enough to supply Spain for more than five years, the company said in a statement.

The discovery was made in an offshore site in the Gulf of Venezuela called Cardon 4.

The company was confirming comments by Venezuela President Hugo Chavez to the Spanish newspaper El Pais during a visit to Madrid on Friday during which he met with Repsol chairman Antoni Brufau.

The offshore field is just 60 metres deep and could have a surface of 33 square kilometres, the statement added.

The company was continuing to pump gas to shore to determine the exact size of the field, it said on Friday it had made what could be its largest gas discovery off Venezuela, and one of the largest discoveries in the world, in an exploration partnership with Italy’s Eni.

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Birds lower temperature to save energy

JERUSALEM, 12 Sept—Migrating Eurasian blackcaps lower their internal temperature at night to retain fat and save energy, Israeli scientists have learned.

The blackcaps were studied in Midreshet ben-Gurion, Israel, where Wojciechowski and Pinshow captured worms.

During the day, the birds’ body temperatures averaged 108.5 degrees Fahrenheit and fell as dusk approached, averaging about 101 degrees during the night, the researchers said.

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The comments come after the White House announced punitive duties of an additional 35 percent on Chinese-made tyres just weeks before Barack Obama is due to host his Chinese counterpart Hu Jintao at the G20 summit in November.—Internet

Study: Boy birth rate on rise in Vietnam

NEW YORK, 12 Sept—United Nations Population Fund official says a study of Vietnam’s birth rate in recent years revealed a spike in the number of boys being born.

Fund representative Bruce Campbell said in a UN release on Friday the number of male births in Vietnam for every 100 female births has increased from 106.2 in 2002 to 112.1 in 2008.

If the trend continues, within three years the Asian country could see more than 115 boys born for every 100 girls.

The organization’s report cites affordable sex-determination and sex-selection technology as a likely cause of the gender shift.—Internet

Worker at a Hangzhou rubber company are seen conducting quality control checks on the tyres at their factory. Beijing lashed out at the US on Saturday after Washington slapped steep tariffs on imported Chinese tyres, calling the measure “protectionist” and threatening retaliation in China’s first trade spat with the Obama administration.—Internet

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Some visitors take a break under the theme sculpture, known as This is Love, of the ongoing 15th Shanghai Art Fair, which opens at the Shanghai Mart, in Shanghai, east China, on 9 Sept, 2009. — Xinhua

Malaysia plane crash kills two pilots

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 Sept—A Pilatus PC-7 plane crashed and burst into flame at the Langkawi International Airport in Malaysia’s Kedah state on Friday, killing two pilots, local media reported Saturday.

According to local media reports, the accident took place at 12.30 pm on Friday when the two pilots, Mohd Roszaini, 37, and Mohd Zulkifli Hasan, 38, were attempting to land.

It was reported that the pilots, both from Royal Malaysian Air Force, were on a diversion practice when the tragedy occurred some 90 meters away from the scene.

Mohd Zulkifli, from Taiping in Perak State, had five children while his peer from Kuala Krai, Kelantan State leaves behind three children.—Xinhua

Shao Jun gives a class to pupils at Dongshan Primary School in Sanbing Township of Chaohu City, east China’s Anhui Province, on 8 Sept, 2009. Shao, 42 years old, lost his right arm during an accident at the age of 19.—Xinhua

US faces shortage of heart surgeons

LOS ANGELES, 12 Sept—With the increasing demands of a population rapidly growing older and heavier, the United States faces a dire shortage of cardiologists, a situation that would spell trouble, a new study warns.

As of right now, there are already 3,000 too few cardiologists in this country, said the study published by HealthDay News on Thursday.

The shortfall could reach 16,000 cardiologists by 2050, according to the study by the American College of Cardiology (ACC).

Based on a survey of people involved in the hiring of cardiologists, the ACC projects a shortfall of up to 16,000 of these professionals within the next four decades.

The main reason for the shortfall is that there has been a 25 percent reduction in the number of slots available for cardiologist training in medical schools spurred by an assumption that family practitioners would be able to provide much of the care for heart disease patients.—Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Mexico warns of nationwide strong rain

MEXICO CITY, 12 Sept.—Mexican authorities on Friday warned of strong rain across most part of the country, just days after the rains and floods that caused two deaths in central Mexico.

The National Meteorological Service (SMN) said a tropical front, weak member of the weather systems family including hurricanes, would bring humidity from warm oceans onshore starting with central and southern Mexico.

Rains, hails and storms will accompany the front. Strong rain is likely for all states along the central and southern coasts as well as Mexico City and the central mountainous area. Only the states on northern Pacific coast will be excluded.

On Monday, two people were found dead after Sunday’s torrential rains in the central State of Mexico.

August and September’s strong rain, in marked contrast to July’s drought, saw around 20 percent more than normal level and killed crops that would have produced up to 1.5 million tons of corn.

Mexican authorities have attributed the extreme weather to El Nino, a periodic change in the atmosphere and ocean of the tropical Pacific region. The government says that the phenomenon has grown in recent years due to global warming.—Xinhua

US, Europe agree on civil space transportation cooperation

WASHINGTON, 12 Sept.—NASA Administrator Charles Bolden and European Space Agency (ESA) Director General Jean-Jacques Dordain signed a memorandum of understanding on Friday for cooperation in the field of space transportation.

The agreement was signed at the NASA Headquarters in Washington.

“From shuttle Spacelab missions to the International Space Station, ESA has a long history of participating with NASA in human spaceflight,” Bolden said. “With this agreement, it is our intent to continue to build this relationship, sharing valuable engineering analyses and technology concepts that will help transport humans to low Earth orbit and beyond.”—Xinhua

Lebanese army, UNIFIL begin search mission after rocket fire

BEIRUT, 12 Sept.—Lebanese army and UN peacekeeping forces went on a search mission on Friday evening to seek rockets which were not launched following rocket exchange between Lebanon and Israel, Lebanon’s National News Agency (NNA) reported.

Lebanese army and UN Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) began the search mission in the surrounding area of southern Lebanon’s Tyre with the assistance of dogs and helicopters.

At the same time, checkpoints were held by the Lebanese army along the roads. Cars are being scrutinized.

A wooden platform which was used to launch the rockets was found in the initial search, as well as a battery, in an orchard at the outskirts of Klialeb village in Tyre.

The search came after at least two Israeli security personnel inspect the site where a Katyusha launched from Lebanon fallen near Geshur-Ha’ziv Kibbutz, in northern Israel, on 11 Sept, 2009.—Xinhua

Katyusha rockets were launched from the area of Klialeb, a village in southern Lebanon 15 km from the border, and impacted in northern Israel in the general area north of Nahariya.—Xinhua
Two injured in gunmen attack in Indonesia’s Papua

JAKARTA, 12 Sept — Police say two bombs being carried by donkeys exploded in northeastern Colombia, killing two cocoa-eradicating workers and wounding six soldiers.

Police Gen Orlando Pineda says the workers were heading from one field to another to destroy coca plants when the explosives tied to the two donkeys went off.

Officials attributed Friday’s attack to the leftist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia. They did not provide evidence to support the claim, but the rebels in the past have staged attacks on workers eradicating coca, the main ingredient of cocaine. The civilian workers were being protected by soldiers.

The blasts took place in the La Gabarra region in Norte de Santander state, northeast of Bogota.—Internet

Colombian police say bombs tied to donkeys kill two

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The blasts took place in the La Gabarra region in Norte de Santander state, northeast of Bogota.—Internet

Mexican police find over $5 million cash in cargo

MEXICO CITY, 12 Sept — Mexican authorities say they have found at least $5 million hidden in a shipment of ammonium sulfate at a Pacific coast port, and are still counting the cash.

Authorities earlier said the estimated amount was at least $5.4 million. The Attorney General’s Office gave no explanation for lowering the estimate.

The Mexican navy says the bundles of cash were hidden in large sacks of the granular chemical, most commonly used as a fertilizer.

The Navy said on Friday the shipment was found at the Manzanillo seaport in two freight containers bound for Colombia. Colombian and US authorities aided in the investigation.

Colombian authorities reported on Wednesday they seized $11.3 million in cash hidden in a similar shipment from Mexico.—Internet
Laukkai: a town with border posts upstream of River Thanlwin

(from page 1)
The Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs built five diversion weirs to deal with the agricultural businesses. There are one detergent factory, four water purifying factories, two printing houses, three Nesat-Mann Hilux Line, Linyon Mini-Bus Line, Sunye Hilux Line and Nyenchanya Van Line transport passengers and commodities from Sihaukme Hotel, Shwe Kyal Hotel and other guest houses in comfort depending on their means.

For smooth transportation in Laukkai Township, 21-mile and two-furlong long Laukkai-Chinshwehaw tarred road, five-mile and five-furlong long Chinshwehaw downtown tarred road, five-mile long Laukkai downtown tarred road, three-mile long Laukkai-Siaw tarred road, Pasinkyaw-BP (127) road, four-mile and five-furlong long Mukwakeng-BP (137) road and four-mile and five-furlong long Tashwehtan-Hosi Tonehaw road were also built.

As village-to-village roads, 12-mile and eight-furlong long Laukkai-Mantonpa road, 42-mile long Laukkai-Yantawshan road, 12-mile long Siaw-Hostonehaw road and Tashwehtan-Kyarsishu road have been built.

Laukkai home to the majority of Kokang and six dams – Siaw diversion weir in Siaw village, Narli diversion weir in Narli village, Manlaw diversion weir in Manlaw village, Shiphan diversion weir in Shiphan village, Mankhar diversion weir in Mankhar village, Shwetone Shwe Dam in Yanlongkyaing village, Mantonpa dam in Mantonpa village, Tashwehtan and Shuntee-aing dams in Tashwehtan village, Tasinkeng dam in Tasinkeng village and Pakyaukshwe dam in East Myothit — in the township with the aim of enabling the local people tea factories, one paper factory, one buckwheat mill, one cement factory, one tile factory, one rubber factory, one brick factory, one heavy machinery workshop and 18 automobile workshops in Laukkai Township.

There is one market and one old market in Laukkai and one supermarket in East Myothit and there are six-mile long Laukkai-Yanlongkyaing tarred road, 12-mile long Laukkai-Tashwehtan tarred road were built.

Visitors can stay at Yinphone Hotel, Kokang Hotel, Phuli Light Hotel, Seinpaungtu Hotel, Sanshin Hotel, East Myothit Hotel, Palsein Hotel, Three Star Hotel, six-mile long Laukkai-Yanlongkyaing road, 12-mile long Laukkai-Tashwehtan road, Pasinkyaw-BP (127) road, four-mile and five-furlong long Mukwakeng-BP (137) road and four-mile and five-furlong long Tashwehtan-Hosi Tonehaw road were also built.

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Laukkai to Lashio, Laukkai is 117 miles and seven-furlongs from Lashio and it can be reached by car on a one day trip.

There is easy and smooth transportation between Laukkai and Lashio as vehicles of Swanyee Mini Bus Line, Nesat-Mann Hilux Line, Sunye Hilux Line, Nesat-Mann Van Line are running Laukkai-Chinshwehaw-Kunlong-Lashio trip daily.

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As gravel roads, 42-mile long Laukkai-Kongyan road, 12-mile long Tashwehtan road, Mukwakeng-Tasinkeng road, six-mile long built under the arrangement of the region.

Besides, 55 feet long Entrance bridge (Chinshwehaw), 114 feet long Namphlahaw border bridge (Chinshwehaw), 330 feet long Nymaung bridge (Chinshwehaw), 114 feet long Border bridge (Yanlongkyaing), national race sees remarkable progress in economic and social sectors thanks to prevailing of peace and stability in the region that lagged behind other regions in development in successive periods.

Translation: YM
The peace talks focused on two important points for a brighter future of the nation —

(1) the national race peace groups would have to abandon their arms following the approval of the State constitution because they would have to work in accordance with the constitution; and

(2) after abandoning their arms, they would be bestowed the right to form political parties and stand for the general election in line with the laws if desirous, and they will have the right to share legislative and executive responsibilities of the future nation if elected.

Regarding the programme to form frontier forces, members of the national race peace groups can face difficulties when they abandon their arms. It is negligible for the leaders of the groups, but there may be difficulties for the subordinates. So, the government initiated the programme to form them into frontier forces under the control of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Service, thinking it over from all possible points of views for the sake of their basic needs and better living conditions. More than that, the government will take responsibilities for security of their assets and lives. The leaders of the peace groups will have the rights to stand for 2010 elections and take seats in the administrative organs of the regions concerned in consistent with the law. That is the best and the most prudent way; for win-win situation.

In spite of the government having addressed the Kokang Region issue in the best and the most appropriate way, certain foreign media are still making unfair comments variously on it, turning a blind eye to the objective conditions in the region. As to the recent incident, they speculated that the government seemed to use force if the national race peace groups did not accept the government’s push on them to transform themselves into frontier forces. Their speculation was cleverly designed to drive a wedge between the government and the peace groups, with the hope that the two sides would be locked in armed conflicts as in the past.

They are anxious to see the peace agreement broken, but that will never take place in the nation because the government is upright in its stand, concept and charge of duties and aspires to national development and better living conditions for the people. That is for sure.

In reality, the government deeply favours and values peace. Since its assumption of State duties, it has been living in the concept that stability of the State and unity of national races are essential for development of the nation. It is common knowledge that the Tatmadaw government initiated an offer to make peace with different types of national race armed groups and persuaded them to return to the legal fold. Then, it complied with their wishes as much as possible.

The government had to hold several peace talks with national race armed groups to reach agreements and build mutuital trust. The peace talks focused on two important points for a brighter future of the nation —

(1) the national race peace groups would have to abandon their arms following the approval of the State constitution because they would have to work in accordance with the constitution; and

(2) after abandoning their arms, they would be bestowed the right to form political parties and stand for the general election in line with the laws if desirous, and they will have the right to share legislative and executive responsibilities of the future nation if elected.

As agreed by both sides before the nation —

(See page 9)
(from page 8)

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The government believed that the national race armed groups, which had returned to the legal fold and made peace with the government, were politically motivated national brethren. The cause of national races has been highlighted in democratic transition and their cooperation recognized as a key force. Delegates of national race groups had the opportunity to attend the National Convention held to draw a constitution and plans were made for them to discuss and coordinate matters. Therefore, arrangements were made to include in the provisions of the constitution rights and opportunities that are compatible with prevailing conditions for national races and minority groups.

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All the national race organizations have to continue to work in accord with the provisions prescribed in the constitution. They need to start a transition period in conformity with the constitution. This is concerned not only with an individual group but with the entire national people including all the national races. So all the national race organizations have to continue to work in accord with the provisions prescribed in the constitution. They need to start a transition period in conformity with the constitution. This is concerned not only with an individual group but with the entire national people including all the national race groups. So we wish the entire nation to accept the transition period.

However much outside media are attempting to disrupt the process, national race armed groups, which will consider a new nation with the determination to maintain peace, are emerging. In accord with the constitution, they are taking new steps towards eternal peace through temporary peace.

According to sources, Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) recently allowed its six top members led by Vice-Chairman Dr Tuja to resign to be able to form a political party and run for the 2010 election. Dr Tuja will build a brighter future of Kachin State by forming Kachin State Progressive Party (KSPP) representing the Kachin nationals. “We have no racial or religious discrimination. Those who are interested in politics will form a party together and stand for the 2010 election. Those who win the election will become members of the Kachin State Hluttaw as well as cabinet members of the Kachin State government. We’ve formed the party as we think that it is the most appropriate to continue this way for development of Kachin State and in the interests of the Kachin people,” said Dr Tuja. Moreover, it is learnt that KIO will coordinate matters on the formation of a frontier force under the name of KRGF. It can be said that the national race groups respected the original agreements and chose the best, most appropriate and safest way.

Likewise, we have learned that New Mon State Party will form a political party and run for the election under the leadership of central committee members. To be able to do party politics, some member leaders of the central committee will be allowed to resign. Other national race organizations will be making similar arrangements and discussions. Anyhow, it is not very difficult to achieve lasting peace through temporary peace if national race leaders choose to consider a new nation with the concept of maintaining peace in the interests of their own regions and forces. So we all the people believe the coordination and discussions between the State and national race groups will be successful.

The State on its part has spent 20 years getting the national race armed groups to transform themselves into frontier forces. In other words, it is to guarantee lasting peace through temporary peace. This duration of time is more than enough for a transition period. Before regaining the independence, the country integrated Patriotic Burma Force (PBF) into standing Burma Army according to the Kandy agreement. The transformation took place within months. But outside media are broadcasting that the national race armed groups still need time to undergo transformation. Indeed, they are doing something like asking a leading question. They are seeking their own interests rather than the interests of the State and the people.

We ourselves have to choose to walk our own way. It is not fair to persuade the national people of the border regions, who have enjoyed and favoured peace and stability and progress for 20 years, to veer from the correct way to peace and to pick up armed struggle line. It is known to all which way is correct and which way is wrong. All the people believe that the national race peace groups will choose the correct way.

The government believed that the national race armed groups, which had returned to the legal fold and made peace with the government, were politically motivated national brethren. The cause of national races has been highlighted in democratic transition and their cooperation recognized as a key force. Delegates of national race groups had the opportunity to attend the National Convention held to draw a constitution and plans were made for them to discuss and coordinate matters. Therefore, arrangements were made to include in the provisions of the constitution rights and opportunities that are compatible with prevailing conditions for national races and minority groups.
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Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspects development tasks…

(from page 1)

They also looked into Ponnyataung Tunnel (East) Railway Station and entrance to Ponnyataung Tunnel (East) and maintenance of bridges. Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected the main embankment, spillway and flow of water into Kandaunt Dam near Kandaunt Village of Pale Township.

After inspecting development of Pale and conditions of roads, Lt-Gen Tha Aye met teachers at Pale Basic Education High School.

At Women’s Vocational Training School in Pale, Lt-Gen Tha Aye inspected construction of new school building and instructed to officials to meet the target and complete in time.—MNA

Lt-Gen Tha Aye of Ministry of Defence inspects providing of basic and advanced tailoring courses to female trainees at Women’s Vocational Training School in Pale. MNA

Refresher course on office work concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—The concluding ceremony of refresher course No.2/2009 on office work, conducted by Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry here yesterday morning, with an address by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing. Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu presented certificates to trainees.

Afterwards, Minister Maj-Gen Soe Naing and Deputy Commander attended WVO preliminary conference

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Maj-Gen Hla Min attended the Preliminary Conference of Bago Division (East) War Veterans Organization Supervisory Committee at the City Hall in Bago on 2 September.

The commander presented prizes to the war veterans’ children who passed the matriculation examination for 2008-2009 academic year with flying colours and the outstanding war veterans in the training courses.—MNA

Commander attends WVO preliminary conference

Seminar on publishing of periodicals held

YANGON, 12 Sept—Chairman of Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association held a seminar on publishing of periodicals at the hall of Sarpay Beikman on Merchant Street yesterday afternoon.

Chairman U Maung Maung made a speech. Vice-Chairman-1 of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Dr Tin Tun Oo on behalf of resource person U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin), resource persons U Myo Aung and Dr Tha Tun Oo submitted their papers. Chairman U Maung Maung presented honorarium for the resource persons and cash to the funds of the MWJA.—MNA

Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin looking into upgrading and tarring of North Horse Race Course Road in Yankin Township.—MNA

Yangon Mayor inspects road, bridge works

YANGON, 11 Sept—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin looked into upgrading and tarring of North Horse Race Course Road in Yankin Township on yesterday morning. He inspected construction of RC bridge for proper drainage in Khunapinlein Street on Moukaung street. —MNA

Yangon Mayor inspects road, bridge works

YANGON, 12 Sept—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin looked into upgrading and tarring of North Horse Race Course Road in Yankin Township on yesterday morning. The street was upgraded with the aim of preventing floods in the rainy season.

Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin looking into upgrading and tarring of North Horse Race Course Road in Yankin Township.—MNA

DBE-2 D-G inspects Kyaukse BEHS No (4)

YANGON, 12 Sept—Director-General U Aye Lwin of Department of Basic Education No-2 under the Ministry of Education arrived at Basic Education High School No(4) in Kyaukse Township this morning. He then looked into studying of students and teaching of the demonstrators from Kyaukse University for the purpose of improving the passing rate in the matriculated examination. Next, the director-general inspected construction of new school building and instructed to officials to meet the target and complete in time.—MNA

Chairman of Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association U Maung Maung delivering address at seminar on publishing of periodicals.—MNA

Dr Tin Tun Oo on behalf of resource person U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin), resource persons U Myo Aung and Dr Tha Tun Oo submitted their papers. Chairman U Maung Maung presented honorarium for the resource persons and cash to the funds of the MWJA.—MNA

Seminar on publishing of periodicals held

Chairman of Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association U Maung Maung delivering address at seminar on publishing of periodicals.—MNA
Lt-Gen Khin Zaw…
(from page 16)
Lt-Gen Khin Zaw and the commander donated hospital equipments, TV and X-ray machine to Kawthoung District People’s Hospital.

At the hospital of the local station, he presented gifts to patients.

Yesterday, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw viewed pesticides, fertilizers, saplings and fruits at the oil palm cultivation project in Khamaukkyi Township.

He inspected production of crude palm oil and visited the oil palm plantations. In the afternoon, they met with officials at the oil palm cultivation project office and heard reports on growing of oil palm plants and future tasks presented by officials.

After attending to the needs, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw and party visited oil palm plantations by car.—MNA

Proper drainage system, sanitation supervised in Tamway, Bahan Tps

Yangon, 12 Sept—Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint and Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin this morning met with officials at the office of Tamway Township Development Affairs Committee and heard reports on proper flow of water at drains and sanitation tasks by officials.

The commander and the mayor gave instructions.

They viewed collective participation of departmental personnel, social organization members and local people in sanitation tasks, fumigating and giving educative health and road works in Tamway Ward and Bahan Township.—MNA

UMFCCI meets Indian guests

Yangon, 12 Sept—Vice-President U Win Aung, General Secretary Dr Maung Maung Lay and Joint Secretary U Tin Maung Win of the Union of Myanmar Chambers of Commerce and Industry and party on 8 September met with a delegation led by Deputy Managers (Exports) Mr Subhajit Mukerji and Mr Manan Arora (Exports) from Whirlpool Company Limited of the Republic of India at the federation here.

They cordially discussed opportunities to import various electrical goods produced by Whirlpool, to Myanmar market and bilateral cooperation on business interests.—MNA

Chairman of IBTC Group presents cash assistance to a victim’s family member.

YANGON, 12 Sept—Family members of Board of Directors of Myanmar Winery & Distillery Co Ltd (MWDC) contributed cash assistance to families of its staff who have lost their lives in MWDC factory accident, in a ceremony which was held at the factory in Yantaikpin village in Hlegu Township here this morning, attended by local authorities, responsible persons of IBTC Group, victims’ families and house-lost families and guests.

Chairman of IBTC Group U Aung Mo Kyaw presented K 4 million each to families who had a member lost in the accident and K 1 million each to house-lost families. Up to now, the cash assistance to the families reached K 6.4 million and K 2.5 million including the pilot assistances.—MNA

On-job Training Course No. 1/2009 for Management Officer (2) concludes

Yangon, 12 Sept—Conducted by General Administration Department under the Ministry of Home Affairs, the ceremony to conclude the On-job Training Course No. 1/2009 for Management Officer (2) took place at General Administration Development Training School of the department in Mingaladon Township here this morning, with an address by Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo.

In his address, the minister urged the trainees to discharge duties with knowledge learned at the course and practical experience of the work in their respective fields. He called on the trainees to keep the codes of conduct and to carry out the tasks with goodwill for the emergence of a peaceful and developed nation. A total of 38 trainees attended the 19-week course.

The ceremony was also attended by departmental officials, the principal of the school, instructors and trainees.—MNA

Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo presents prize to a trainee at On-job Training Course No. 1/2009.—MNA
Aptamers could invigorate beta-lactam antibiotics, such as penicillins, carbapenems and cephalosporins, which account for nearly $30 billion in annual sales in the United States and more worldwide, Shaw said in a release. Aptamers used with antibiotics kill bacteria that produce enzymes called metallo-beta-lactamase, which have been the most difficult enzymes for researchers to counteract, Shaw said.

**Nucleic acid invigorates antibiotics**

**LUBBOCK, Sept.**—A recently patented chemical additive could make old antibiotics effective again against resistant bacteria, a Texas Tech researcher said.

A short chain of nucleic acid, called an aptamer, can stop antibiotic-resistant bacteria from breaking down antibiotics, said Robert Shaw, associate chairman of Texas Tech’s Department of Chemistry. Aptamers could invigorate beta-lactam antibiotics, such as penicillins, carbapenems and cephalosporins, which account for nearly $30 billion in annual sales in the United States and more worldwide, Shaw said in a release. Aptamers used with antibiotics kill bacteria that produce enzymes called metallo-beta-lactamase, which have been the most difficult enzymes for researchers to counteract, Shaw said.

**Adult obesity linked to childhood problems**

**LONDON, Sept.**—Children with emotional difficulties are more likely to become obese adults, researchers in Britain found.

Andrew Ternouth, David Collier and Barbara Maughan of King’s College London studied data from about 6,500 members of the 1970 British Birth Cohort Study who, as 10-year-olds, had been assessed for emotional problems and body mass index. The study participants reported again on their BMI at age 30.

The study, published in the journal BMC Medicine, found that children with a lower self-esteem, those who felt less in control of their lives and those who worried often were more likely to gain weight over the next 20 years. Girls were slightly more affected by these factors than boys, the study found.

“We cannot say that childhood emotional problems cause obesity in later life, we can certainly say they play a role, along with factors such as parental BMI, diet and exercise,” Ternouth said. —Internet

**Mexico charges Bolivian pastor in plane hijacking**

**MEXICO CITY, Sept.**—Prosecutors have charged a Bolivian pastor with sabotage, illegal retention and attack on a means of transport in this week’s hijacking of a plane from the resort city of Cancun, the attorney general’s office said on Friday.

The charges carry total maximum sentences of up to 43 years in prison. The illegal retention charge is used to describe a lesser form of kidnapping.

Jose Flores, who was taken to a Mexico City prison to await a judge’s decision on whether he should stand trial, has said he doesn’t regret threatening to detonate a fake bomb aboard an Aeromexico commercial jetliner on Wednesday.

Flores’ demand to speak with President Felipe Calderon sparked an hourlong standoff that ended peacefully when armed police raided the airplane, freeing the 103 passengers and seven crew members aboard unharmed.

**New blast-resistant glass thinner, lighter**

**COLUMBIA, Sept.**—Researchers at the University of Missouri say they’re testing a new blast-resistant glass that is thinner and lighter than current varieties.

“The glass we are developing is less than one-half of an inch thick,” said professor Sanjeev Khanna of the university’s school of engineering. “Because the glass panel will be thinner, it will use less material and be cheaper than what is currently being used.”

The glass could be used in federal buildings, security vehicles and in windows in hurricane areas, he said. Conventional blast-resistant glass is made by placing a layer of plastic between sheets of glass. Khanna’s team has replaced the plastic layer with a transparent composite material made of glass fibers embedded in plastic. —Internet

**Seeds being saved ahead of ash borer**

**AMES, Sept.**—Thousands of ash tree seeds must be saved before the emerald ash borer completes its destructive drive across North America, biologists said.

The ash borer so far has killed an estimated 70 million trees — the devastation spreading from Michigan, where the Asian pest was discovered in 2002, said Mark Widrlechner, who heads a nationwide effort to collect seed from stands of healthy green, white, blue and black ash.

Widlrechner estimates he’s collected about 10 percent of the seed needed to reintroduce ash trees in the United States. “It doesn’t just attack sick trees,” Widrlechner said.

Seeds collected from healthy ash trees could be used to make a more resistant variety of ash tree, Widrlechner said. —Internet

**New 455 A/H1N1 flu cases confirmed in Europe**

**STOCKHOLM, Sept.**—A European health agency said Friday that 455 new A/H1N1 flu cases were reported in European countries within the last 24 hours.

Of the new cases, 147 were confirmed in Germany, 130 in Britain, 128 in Italy, 22 in Luxembourg, 16 in Ireland, five in Switzerland, two respectively in Bulgaria, Latvia and Romania, one in Slovakia, the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) said in its daily situation report.

The total number of confirmed cases of the A/H1N1 flu virus in the European Union (EU) and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries rose to 50,470, with 1,538 cases in Spain and 13,322 in Britain, 1,125 in France and 17,937 in Germany, the ECDC said.

The ECDC publishes a daily situation report about A/H1N1 flu cases in the EU and EFTA countries based on official information from these countries. —Xinhua
**Second-hand smoke linked to liver illness**

**River Side, 12 Sept—**US researchers say they have linked second-hand smoke to non-alcoholic fatty liver disease in mice.

The study, published in the *Journal of Hepatology,* not only finds fat accumulating in the liver cells of mice exposed in the laboratory to second-hand smoke, but describes how smoke affects two key regulators of fat synthesis on the molecular level.

Study leader Manuela Martins-Green, a professor of cell biology at the University of California, Riverside, says smoke exposure inhibits the first regulator — called adenosine monophosphate kinase — and this prompts the second regulator — sterol regulatory element-binding protein — to spur synthesis of fatty acids in the liver.

The researchers say discouraging cigarette smoking helps prevent not only cardiovascular disease, pulmonary disease and cancer, but now also liver disease.

For the purposes of the study, the researchers define second-hand smoke as the combination of smoke exhaled by a smoker and smoke given off by the burning end of a tobacco product.

Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease is a rising cause of chronic liver injury in which fat accumulates in the liver of people who drink little or no alcohol. At its most severe, it can progress to liver failure.

— Internet

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**Fat cell size/waist size predicts diabetes**

**Gothenburg, 12 Sept—**Large abdominal fat cells and/or waist-to-height ratios are key indicators of future diabetes, Swedish researchers say.

The study, published by the *Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology Journal,* finds women’s abdominal fat cells remain relatively constant in number after adolescence, but can change considerably in size throughout life and may be larger in those who develop type 2 diabetes.

“Increased knowledge of the link between enlarged fat cells and the development of type 2 diabetes may give rise to new preventive and therapeutic alternatives,” Malin Lonn, associate professor in the department of clinical chemistry at Sahlgrenska University Hospital in Gothenburg, Sweden, said in a statement. “Our research also identifies the ratio waist-to-height, waist circumference divided by body height, as a simple tool that can be used to identify women at risk of developing type 2 diabetes.”

The study involved more than 1,000 women. In 1974-1975, abdominal fat biopsies were taken from a subsample of 245 women. Incidence of type 2 diabetes was followed until 2001, with 36 cases eligible for inclusion in the analysis.

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**Vaccinating kids first mitigates flu**

**Seattle, 12 Sept—**A vaccination programme that targets children first and reaches 70 percent of the US population would mitigate pandemic influenza H1N1, researchers said.

Ira Longini and colleagues at the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Institute at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle used computer models to determine what would mitigate the H1N1 pandemic.

The researchers said that to bring the swine flu epidemic under control aggressive vaccination of the population must begin at least a month before the epidemic peak, concentrating on children as much as possible.

The study, published in *Science Express,* the early online edition of the journal *Science,* recommends children ages 6 months to 18 be vaccinated first, as well as those with chronic diseases and those working in healthcare and emergency services personnel.

Although social distancing and the use of antiviral medicines can be partially effective at slowing the flu spread, vaccination remains the most effective means of pandemic influenza control, the study authors said.— Internet

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**Plastic surgeons key in disaster planning**

**Dallas, 12 Sept—**Including plastic surgeons in disaster relief response could improve long-term outcomes for victims of catastrophes, doctors in Texas said.

Plastic surgeons should be added to the list of emergency responders in natural disasters and terrorist attacks, emergency planners at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center said in a release.

Plastic surgeons at, or near, the scene of an emergency could prevent and treat face and tissue scarring, and burns, and handle sensitive nerve-requiring injuries, said Dr. Rod Rohrich, chairman of plastic surgery at Southwestern.

Rohrich and his team examined responses from disaster events around the world, including the 11 Sept, 2001, World Trade Center attacks, and found a substantial number of cases involved plastic surgery-related issues.

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**Mental illness linked to less productivity**

**Brisbane, 12 Sept—**Addressing employee mental health can increase productivity in the workplace, researchers in Australia said.

The study of more than 60,000 employees, published in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine,* found employees without symptoms of mental health problems — having low scores on a psychological distress scale — were the most productive workers. However, effective treatment of employees with mental health problems eventually led to productivity improving to near-normal levels after a period of low productivity during treatment.

“Addressing employee mental health increases employee productivity in the workplace with the potential for a positive return-on-investment from an employer’s perspective,” Dr. Michael F. Hiltun, the study leader, and colleagues at The University of Queensland, Australia, wrote in a statement.— Internet

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**Study: Day care may not decrease asthma**

**Rotterdam, 12 Sept—**Dutch researchers say their findings do not support the “hygiene hypothesis” that children who attend early day care do not have asthma later.

The study, published in *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine,* found any perceived protection against asthma and allergies due to greater exposure to illnesses disappeared by age 8.

Dr Johan de Jongste of Erasmus University in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, and colleagues tracked more than 3,500 Dutch children in the Prevention and Incidence of Asthma and Mite Allergy Study and found children starting day care early — before age 2 — were twice as likely as those not going to day care to experience wheezing in the first year of life.

A slight trend for less wheezing among early day care attendees was noted by age 5, but by age 8, there was no protective or harmful effect. The effects of day care on wheezing did not differ between boys and girls, but were more marked in children with older siblings.

“Early day care merely seems to shift the burden of respiratory morbidity to an earlier age where it is more troublesome than at a later age,” de Jongste, the chief investigator, said in a statement. “Early day care should not be promoted for reasons of preventing asthma and allergy.”

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**Spotted deer take a shower at Chongqing Wild Animal World in southwest China’s Chongqing Municipality, on 10 Sept, 2009. Hot weather has hit most areas of Chongqing since on 4 Sept and varied measures have been taken for animals to cool themselves in Chongqing Wild Animal World.— Xinhua**
**Heavy legs aplenty as French top flight resumes**

**Paris, 12 Sept—**Thirty-seven Ligue 1 players were in action in midweek World Cup qualifying matches, but when France’s top flight resumes on Saturday it will be the French contingent with the weariest limbs. France’s battling 1-1 draw against Serbia in Belgrade on Wednesday kept their slender hopes of automatic qualification alive, but the ninth-minute dismissal of Lyon goalkeeper Hugo Lloris forced his colleagues into greater exertions than their club managers would perhaps have wanted.—**Internet

**Ferguson tips Spurs for top four push**

**London, 12 Sept—**Sir Alex Ferguson believes Tottenham are genuine top-four contenders as he prepares to take his Manchester side to White Hart Lane. Harry Redknapp’s side have started the season with four straight wins and a string of imposing performances. United, meanwhile, have stumbled to unconvincing wins over Arsenal and Birmingham, thumped Wigan and suffered a shock defeat at newly-promoted Burnley. —**Internet

**AFA website under hacker attack, Maradona mocked**

**Buenos Aires, 12 Sept—**The website of the Argentine Soccer Association (AFA) on Friday was under a hacker attack, in which a picture of Argentina coach Diego Maradona wearing a T-shirt of Brazil was published. “One image worth thousands words,” said the image published by the self named KKR hacker, who used the publicity of a Brazilian drink that Maradona did in 2006, and for which he was paid 150,000 US dollars.—**Internet

**CROSSWORDS PUZZLE**

(ACRoss) (DOWn)

1 Increasing
2 Pasture
3 Perfect
4 Concedes
5 Conciliate
6 Town in West Glamorgan
7 Diabolical
8 Corner
9 Unyielding
10 Vest
11 Deadly pale
12 French poet
13 Nil
14 Feversibly active
15 Chirp
16 Transgressor
17 Piece of bullion
18 Zest
19 Slope
20 Best part
21 Weird
22 Fortified position
23 Penetrate
24 Incorrect
25 Compunction

**Mark Viduka to return to Australia**

**Brisbane, 12 Sept—**Former Middlesbrough and Newcastle striker Mark Viduka is returning home to live in Australia, his agent told an Australian website on Saturday. Uncertainty had surrounded the former Socceroo’s future since Newcastle were relegated from the English Premier League last season. The 33-year-old had been linked with a possible move to English clubs Portsmouth, Fulham and West Ham but his agent, Steve Kutner, ruled out another contract in Europe. —**Internet

**S Gal leads after 1st round at LPGA event**

**Rogers, 12 Sept—**Sandra Gal’s eagle on the 18th hole gave her a one-shot lead after the first round of the P&G Beauty NW Arkansas Championship. Gal shot a 7-under 65 in the LPGA Tour event Friday, and her uphill putt from about 4 feet on the final hole moved her past Song-Hee Kim and into the lead. Kim is alone in second place.—**Internet
Indonesian satellite reaches preset orbit despite skewed launch

BEIJING, 12 Sept—Indonesian communication satellite Palapa D entered its geosynchronous orbit on 9 September, despite an ignition failure on the rocket that carried the satellite more than a week ago, the satellite’s manufacturer said on Saturday.

The satellite had conducted a number of orbit maneuvers in order to get into the geosynchronous orbit, and was in normal state, the company said.

Reynald Seznec, Chief Executive Officer of Thales Alenia Space, said on Wednesday that the fuel Palapa D carried was enough for the satellite to operate for about 10 years in its orbit, 2/3 of the contracted service time.

Palapa D was launched atop a China-made Long March 3B rocket on August 31 from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China.

It did not reach its preset orbit after the third stage of the Long March rocket failed during a second-time ignition. The satellite was captured a few hours later, and was able to conduct orbit maneuvers.

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A woman leans against an old car, used as a taxi, in Havana, on Friday, 11 Sept. Cuba’s government has begun the distribution of permits to legalize old cars, currently used as a black-market taxis.—INTERNET

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WEATHER

Saturday, 12th September, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST:

During the past 24 hours, Southwest monsoon has withdrawn from Northern Myanmar areas. Rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Taninthayi Division, scattered in Rakhine State, Bago and Yangon Divisions, isolated in Shan, Chin and Kayin States, Mandalay, Magway and Ayeyawady Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin) (0.67) inch, An (1.85) inches, Shweyinyi (1.06) inches, Kyankpyu (0.98) inch, Phyapon (0.75) inch, Taungdwingyi (0.59) inch and Mekkila (0.47) inch.

Total sun shine hours on 11-9-2009 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 12-9-2009 was 72°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 12-9-2009 was 82%. Total sun shine hours on 11-9-2009 was (5.1) hours approx. Rainfall on 12-9-2009 was at Tr at Mingaladon, Nil at Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (94.29) inches at Mingaladon, (104.68) inches at Kaba-Aye and (110.94) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from South at (14:30) hours MST on 11-9-2009.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. Special feather: According to the observations at (06:30hrs M.S.T today, the tropical storm “Mujigae” over South China Sea (Gulf of Tonking) has downgraded into a tropical depression and centered at about (80) miles South of Hanoi (Vietnam). It is moving West northwest direction and forecast to cross Coast of Vietnam during next (24) hours.

Forecast valid until evening of 13th September 2009:

Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, scattered in Chin, Shan, Kayin and Rakhine States, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Bago Divisions and isolated in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Increase of rain in Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 13-9-2009: Isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 13-9-2009: Isolated rain or thunder showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 13-9-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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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

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw looks into growing of oil palm in Kawthoung District

Khin Zaw Oo and officials on 10 September met with servicemen and family members at the hall in Kawthoung Station.
At the office of Kawthoung District, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw and party also met departmental officials and heard their reports on agriculture and development tasks.

 ils are tigers 'brainier' than lions?
—SCIENCE DAILY, 12 Sept—A wide-ranging study of big cat skulls, led by Oxford University scientists, has shown that tigers have bigger brains, relative to their body size, than lions, leopards or jaguars.
The team investigated the relationship between the skull size—the longest length between the front and back parts of the skull—of a large sample of tigers, lions, leopards and jaguars and the volume inside the cat’s respective craniums. The researchers report their findings in this month’s Biological Journal of the Linnean Society.

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Global warming causes outbreak of rare algae associated with corals, study finds
—SCIENCE DAILY, 12 Sept—A rare opportunity has allowed a team of biologists to evaluate corals and the essential, photosynthetic algae that live inside their cells before, during, and after a period in 2005 when global warming caused seawater temperatures in the Caribbean Ocean to rise.

The team, led by Penn State Assistant Professor of Biology Todd LaJeunesse, found that a rare species of algae that is tolerant of stressful environmental conditions proliferated in corals as the more-sensitive algae were being expelled from corals. The results will be published in the online version of the journal Proceedings of the Royal Society B soon.

We ourselves have to choose to walk our own way. It is not fair to persuade the national people of the border regions, who have enjoyed and favoured peace and stability and progress for 20 years, to veer from the correct way to peace and to pick up armed struggle line. It is known to all which way is correct and which way is wrong. All the people believe that the national race peace groups will choose the correct way.

The noteworthy amounts of rainfall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nay Pyi Taw</td>
<td>0.67 inch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yezin</td>
<td>1.85 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shwegyin</td>
<td>1.06 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyaukpyu</td>
<td>0.98 inch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyapon</td>
<td>0.75 inch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taungdwingyi</td>
<td>0.59 inch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meiktila</td>
<td>0.47 inch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>