Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Turkish President

NAV PYA TAW, 29 Oct—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Abdullah Gul, President of the Republic of Turkey, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Proclamation of the Republic of Turkey, which falls on 29 October 2009.—MNA

Prime Minister felicitates Turkish counterpart

NAV PYA TAW, 29 Oct—General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Proclamation of the Republic of Turkey, which falls on 29 October 2009.—MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends 4th East Asia Summit and closing ceremony of 15th ASEAN Summit

NAV PYA TAW, 28 Oct—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein attended the 4th East Asia Summit and closing ceremony of the 15th ASEAN Summit held at Dusit Thani Hotel in Hua Hin, Thailand, on 25 October morning and afternoon.

Present at the 4th East Asia Summit were King of Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Indonesian President Dr H Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Mohd Najib Bin Tun Hj Abd Razak, Philippine President Madam Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Thai Prime Minister Mr Abhisit Vejjajiva, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, Chinese Premier Mr Wen Jiabao, Japanese Prime Minister Mr Yuuki Hatoyama, Korean President Mr Lee Myung-bak, Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, Australian Prime Minister Mr Kevin Michael Rudd, New Zealand Prime Minister Mr John Key and ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein has a documentary photo taken together with heads of State/Government of 16 East Asian countries at 4th East Asia Summit held at Dusit Thani Hotel in Hua Hin, Thailand.—MNA

Before the summit, heads of State/Government from 16 East Asian countries posed for a documentary photo.

At the summit, leaders of East Asian countries discussed and exchanged views on matters related to cooperative measures against climate change and natural disasters, natural disaster financial crisis to be overcome, efforts for ensuring successful realization of Copenhagen Environment Summit, preventive measures against climate change and natural disasters, natural disaster (See page 8)
Boost trade, investment to establish East Asian Community

Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein visited Thailand from 22 to 26 October to attend the 15th ASEAN Summit and related summits at Hua Hin in Thailand at the invitation of his Thai counterpart Mr Abhisit Vejjajiva.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein and Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries attended the 15th ASEAN Summit and held discussions about achievements of ASEAN, the need of coping with global financial crisis, preventive measures against A (H1N1) flu and climate change, pilot programmes to store reserve food for Asian food security, and plan to establish an East Asian free trade area.

At the special meeting, Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries compared notes on cooperation on prevention of cross-border crimes, combating terrorism, continued participation of ASEAN in G-20, disaster preparedness, and regional and international issues.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein also represented the Union of Myanmar at the 12th ASEAN-China Summit, the 12th ASEAN-Japan Summit, the 12th ASEAN-Korea Summit, ASEAN + 3 Summit, and the 7th ASEAN-India Summit at Hua Hin in Thailand on 24 October.

The summits were attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries, the Premier of the State Council of the People’s Republic of China, the Japanese Prime Minister, and the Korean President. They held talks on the plan to found a free trade area, disaster preparedness, fight against illicit drugs, joint combat against terrorism, environmental conservation, and food and energy security.

ASEAN region is believed to enjoy a growing number of fruitful results if member countries broadly cooperate with East Asian countries in multifarious sectors such as trade and economic spheres in line with the fine tradition of friendly, consolidated relations between ASEAN and East Asia.

Commander inspects Mongnai-Kengtung railway construction project

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct—Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Phyo, on 20 October, inspected extension of outfall channel and runway beside the runway of Kengtung airport.

At the briefing hall of Mongnai-Kengtung railway construction project near Kengtung University, the commander heard the report presented by project engineer on condition of work, and gave necessary instructions. After that, the commander inspected construction work in the compound of the station, completion of axis between Kengtung and Yanlu and bridge.

PBANRDA Minister attends ceremony to hand over new school building in Pantanaw Tsp

YANGON, 28 Oct—Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt attended the ceremony to hand over new school building of Chaunggalay village Basic Education High School (Branch) constructed by the Development Affairs Department to the Ministry of Education at Chaunggalay Village of Pantanaw Township, Ayeyawady Division, on 26 Oct.

Director-General U Kyaw Thu of the Department of Basic Education No (1), Deputy Director-General (Engineer) U Soe Ko Ko of the Development Affairs Department and member of school board of trustees U Hla Win formally opened the school building.

The minister unveiled the stone plaque and sprinkled it with scented water.

Next, the minister explained the purpose of contributing regional development tasks in Pantanaw Township, and three projects for the development of the nation. The director-general of DBE-1 U Kyaw Thu presented the education affairs and the deputy director-general (Engineer) of DAD U Soe Ko Ko, progress in the renovation of the school buildings.

The deputy director-general (Engineer) U Soe Ko Ko handed over the documents related to the new school building to Township Education Officer U Myat Soe.

Headmistress of the school Daw Khin Nwe Mu spoke words of thanks.

Later, the minister looked around the new school building.

The construction of one-storey new school building with 60-ft length, 30-ft wide and renovation of three existing buildings were carried out by the engineers from Development Affairs Department.

A total of 18 schools out of 44 which were ravaged in the cyclone Nargis in Maubin Township have been repaired by the Engineer Group of DAD and TTT and A-1 Construction companies with the funds of the Ministry of Education.

The minister also attended the ceremonies to hand over three new school buildings constructed with the contribution of Nippon Foundation (Japan) by Cetana Group.
Ten dead in attack on UN in Kabul

KABUL, 28 Oct—Gunmen with automatic weapons and suicide vests stormed a guest house used by UN staff in the heart of the Afghan capital early on Wednesday, killing 10 people—including six UN staff—officials said. A Taliban spokesman claimed responsibility, saying it was meant as an assault on the upcoming presidential election.

Later, a rocket slammed into the grounds of the luxury Serena Hotel, which is favored by many foreigners. The device failed to explode but filled the lobby with smoke, forcing guests and employees to flee to the basement, according to an Afghan witness who asked that his name not be used for security reasons.

UN spokesman Adrian Edwards said six UN staff were killed and nine other UN employees were injured in the assault, which began about dawn in the Shar-e-Naw area of the city.

Guests from the building during the assault, and flames were seen on the roof as smoke billowed out and over the city.—INTERNET

Some of the deadliest attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 28 Oct—Some of the deadliest militant attacks in Iraq since the US-led invasion in March 2003:

• 2 March, 2004 — Coordinated blasts from suicide bombers, mortars and planted explosives strike Shiite Muslim shrines in Karbala and in Baghdad, killing at least 181 people.
• 14 Sept, 2005 — More than a dozen coordinated bombings rip through Baghdad, killing 178 people.
• 23 Nov, 2006 — Mortar rounds and five car bombs kill 215 people in Baghdad's Shiite neighbourhood of Sadr City.
• 3 Feb, 2007 — A suicide truck bomber at a market in a predominantly Shiite area of Baghdad kills 137.
• 18 April, 2007 — At least 183 are killed when four large bombs explode in mainly Shiite locations of Baghdad.
• 7 July, 2007 — A suicide truck bomb kills 160 in a Turkmen village south of Kirkuk.
• 14 Aug, 2007 — Four suicide truck bombs detonate simultaneously in the small village of Qahatamya, killing more than 500 Yazidis, a Kurdish-speaking sect and religious minority.
• 25 Oct, 2009 — Two powerful car bombs explode in downtown Baghdad, killing at least 155 people in an apparent attempt to target the fragile city's government offices.

An internally displaced Afghan family sits inside their tent in Kabul, Afghanistan, on 26 Oct, 2009. According to UNHCR some 2.7 million registered Afghans refugees still remain in Pakistan and Iran.—INTERNET

Invasion of US and allies kills, injures Iraqi people

BAGHDAD, 28 Oct—There has been daily casualties in Iraq since the US and its allies have invaded the country.

The total number of casualties as from the day they invaded the country to 28 October reached 699,281 and the total number of seriously injured people reached 1,261,717, according to the news on the internet.

Casualties of Iraqi people

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Death toll of Iraqi people</td>
<td>699,281</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The total number of seriously injured people</td>
<td>1,261,717</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Casualties of Afghan people in invasion of NATO troops led by US

KABUL, 28 Oct—The NATO troops led by the US have invaded Afghanistan and they are there for a long time.

A number of Afghan people are killed and injured due to invasion of the NATO troops led by the US.

Casualties of Afghan people

According to the Internet news, a total of 32,315 Afghan people were killed and 37,974 injured seriously as from the day when the NATO troops led by the US invaded Afghanistan to 28 October.

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<thead>
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<th>No.</th>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Internet

Local residents gather at the site of a car bomb attack targeting the building of the Ministry of Justice in Baghdad on 25 Oct, 2009. Iraq renewed calls on Monday for a UN inquiry into the support given by foreign countries to insurgents after twin suicide blasts against government buildings in Baghdad.—INTERNET

Three bodies found in US plane wreckage in Afghanistan

KABUL, 28 Oct—NATO-led forces have recovered the remains of three American military contractors from the wreckage of a US Army reconnaissance plane that crashed two weeks ago in the rugged mountains of northeastern Afghanistan, the military said on Tuesday. The Army C-12 Huron twin-engine turboprop had been missing since it crashed on 13 Oct while on a routine mission in Nuristan Province, a Taliban militant stronghold. The plane went down less than two weeks after militants overran a coalition outpost the same province, killing eight American troops in one of the war's deadliest battles for the US. NATO said in a statement that the crash is "under investigation, though hostile action is not believed to be the cause of the crash."—INTERNET

An injured man walks away after a massive bomb attack in Baghdad, Iraq, on 25 Oct, 2009. Iraq police say that a pair of powerful explosions went off near the Ministry of Justice and the offices of a Kurdish political party during the morning rush hour as people headed to work.—INTERNET

An Iraqi woman reacts at the site of suicide bombing in Baghdad, Iraq, on 26 Oct, 2009. On Sunday, at least 155 people were killed and many more wounded in two suicide bombings in the country's deadliest attack in more than two years. INTERNET
### US drone strikes may break international law

**United Nations, 28 Oct**—US drone strikes against suspected terrorists in Afghanistan and Pakistan could be breaking international laws against summary executions, the UN’s top investigator of such crimes said.

“The problem with the United States is that it is making an increased use of drones/Predators (which are) particularly prominently used now in relation to Pakistan and Afghanistan,” UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial Executions Philip Alston told a press conference.

“My concern is that drones/Predators are being operated in a framework which may well violate international humanitarian law and international human rights law,” he said. US strikes with remote-controlled aircraft against Al-Qaeda and Taleban targets in Afghanistan and northwestern Pakistan have often resulted in civilian deaths and drawn bitter criticism from local populations.

“The onus is really on the United States government to reveal more about the ways in which it makes sure that arbitrary extrajudicial executions aren’t in fact being carried out through the use of these weapons,” he added.

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### China’s broadband users top 99.33 mln

**Beijing, 28 Oct**—China added 16.45 million broadband users in the first nine months, bringing the total to 99.33 million, data released by the Ministry of Industry and Information on Technology (MIIT) on Tuesday showed.

China had 360 million Internet users by the end of September, said Zhu Jun, deputy director of the telecom development department under the MIIT. The figure was compared with 338 million by the end of June.

Broadband was available in 96 percent of townships, and 91 percent of administrative villages had access to Internet by the end of September.

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### Five policemen injured in terrorist attack at Athens police station

**Athens, 28 Oct**—A wide anti-terrorism probe is in progress in Athens on Tuesday night, after the bloody terrorist attack which occurred against a police station in the northern suburb of Aghia Paraskevi around 10 pm local time (20:00 GMT).

Five policemen were injured, two of them seriously, when two unidentified persons opened fire with AK-47 assault rifles, the Greek state television reported.

According to witnesses, the two attackers who wore helmets escaped on a motorbike. An anti-terrorism squad rushed to the spot, collecting important data, while policemen are searching for suspects around Athens.

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### Afghan leader’s brother on CIA payroll

**Washington, 28 Oct**—Ahmed Wali Karzai, the brother of the embattled Afghan President and a suspected drug trafficker, has been on the CIA payroll for most of the past eight years, The New York Times reported.

The US spy agency pays Karzai for a variety of services, the newspaper said, such as fielding recruits for an Afghan paramilitary force operating at the CIA’s direction in and around his home city of Kandahar, a Taleban stronghold.

He also helps the CIA contact and sometimes meet Taleban followers. Karzai, who is said to have ties to Afghanistan’s lucrative illegal opium trade, has a “wide-ranging” relationship with the CIA, the Times said, citing US officials.

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### Rocket from Lebanon hits Israel; Israel fires back

**Jerusalem, 28 Oct**—A rocket fired from Lebanon struck inside northern Israel on Tuesday causing no damage or injury, and Israel responded with artillery fire at Lebanon, the Israeli military and a Lebanese security source said.

An Israeli military spokeswoman said Israel was treating the shooting along the normally quiet though tense border “very seriously” and that it held the Lebanese government responsible.

There were no reports of casualties from the rocket that security sources said slammed into an open area near the northern Israeli border town of Kiryat Shmona, or from Israel’s subsequent artillery fire at Lebanon.

A Lebanese security source confirmed a rocket had been fired from southern Lebanon from the village of Houla, and another Lebanese security source said Israeli fired at least eight artillery shells afterwards toward that area.

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### Runway not to blame for TAM Airlines Flight 3054’s crash

**Rio de Janeiro, 28 Oct**—The condition of the Congon has Airport’s runway was not the cause of the crash of TAM airlines flight 3054, one of Brazil’s worst plane crashes, local daily O Globo said on Tuesday quoting a report of the Brazilian Air Force.

TAM Flight 3054, an Airbus A320, landed in driving rain at Sao Paulo’s Congonhas airport on 17 July, 2007, speeding down the runway and crashing into a gas station and air cargo building at 109 mph (175 kph).

All 187 people aboard and 12 people on the ground died.

The accident is the second worst in the history of Brazilian aviation, only surpassed by the crash of Air France Flight 447 from Brazil to France in May, which killed 228 people.

At the time of the accident, much of the report focused on the runway, where landings were periodically suspended during rainstorms as the runway got too slippery.
New Zealand dairy giant Fonterra expands investment in Malaysia

AUCKLAND, 28 Oct—The New Zealand dairy products giant Fonterra, has spent 9.8 million NZ dollars (7.3 million US dollars) in upgrading its plant in Kuala Lumpur as a sign of its confidence in the Malaysian market after signing a free-trade agreement with the country at the weekend.

During their visit to Malaysia, New Zealand Prime Minister John Key and Fonterra chairman Henry van der Heyden, unveiled a plaque to commemorate the Minister John Key and Fonterra chairman Henry van der Heyden, unveiled a plaque to commemorate the expansion, which will increase the production capacity of the plant.

With a 64 percent market share, Fonterra Brands is the largest dairy supplier in Malaysia. Fernleaf CalciYum is now the number one yogurt brand in Malaysia. —Xinhua

Singapore businessmen intend to increase business ties with Indonesia

JAKARTA, 28 Oct—Singapore businessmen intend to increase business ties with Indonesia in sectors of logistics, transportation, and property.

Bisnis Indonesia daily quoted an official as saying on Wednesday.

However, the intention is hampered by lack of domestic infrastructure.

Iwan Dermawan Hanafi, the head of steering committee for Singapore at the Indonesian Chamber of Trade and Industry (KADIN), said that the intention is based on fact that Singapore is Indonesia’s third biggest export destination.

“Singaporean delegation will visit Surabaya of East Java and Kalimantan Island to explore cooperation,” he said on the sideline of business meeting of Indonesia-Singapore on Tuesday.

He also said the visit by 22 Singaporean delegations to Kalimantan is because of many mining activities in the area while visit at Surabaya is because the city is the second largest town after Jakarta.

Iwan said that some businessmen of the delegation have been investing in Indonesia while others are starting to invest and are exploring opportunities.

On the trade field, he said, Indonesia could increase its export to Singapore because many exports should be via the country before sent to the destination countries.

SAARC trade portal launched to boost regional trade

KATHMANDU, 28 Oct—Importers, exporters and small-medium enterprises of the South Asian region now have access to important trade-related information with a click of the mouse.

The portal is launched here on Thursday. The portal, first of its kind in South Asia, is a product of SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation) Trade Information Project jointly implemented by the SAARC Information Center (SIC) in Nepal and German Technical Cooperation with the funding support from German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The initiative enjoys support of 26 leading trade bodies, including trade departments, chambers and industrial associations from all eight SAARC member states.

Fiji sugar industry suffers more financial losses

SUVA, 28 Oct—Fiji’s Sugar Corporation that supports 200,000 people’s life in Fiji has recorded an operating loss of 40.1 million Fiji dollars (21 million US dollars) before income tax for the year ending on 31 May, 2009.

In the 2009 FSC Annual Report, it is stated that the loss for the year after income tax benefit of 3.3 million Fiji dollars is 36.8 million Fiji dollars.

This news came as the Fiji Sugar Corporation meets for its annual general meeting on Wednesday, FSC Chief Executive Dero Saran, said the corporation incurred a trading loss of 3.9 million US dollars.

Arab oil, gas exhibition opens in UAE

ABU DHABI, 28 Oct—The 2009 Arab Oil and Gas Show, one of the leading networking platforms for the world’s energy industry, opened on Tuesday at the International Convention and Exhibition Center in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Saeed Al Tayer, head of Dubai Electricity and Water Authority, inaugurated the annual exhibition, a technical event for engineers, technicians, professionals and procurement experts in the energy, automation and manufacturing sectors. “The new technologies available will sustain this industry in the long run, and are critical for the development of this region’s oil and gas industry,” he said at the opening ceremony.

Nepal-India new trade treaty comes into effect

KATHMANDU, 28 Oct—Nepal and India have signed Treaty of Trade and Agreement of Cooperation to Control Unauthorized Trade in Nepali capital Kathmandu.

According to Wednesday’s The Himalayan Times daily, Nepali Minister for Commerce and Supplies Rajendra Mahato and Indian Minister for Commerce and Industries Anand Sharma signed the treaty on Tuesday that will come into effect immediately.

New trade treaty is the revision of 1991 treaty. It addresses changes that took place in bilateral, regional and international trade in the last 18 years, said Mahato.

The new treaty will help Nepal reduce trade deficit with India, he was quoted by the daily as saying, “It will be a milestone for Nepali exports if Nepal can produce quality goods at competitive prices,” he added.

Two-third of Nepali trade is with India and the trade volume has been growing.
Argentina accuses Brazil of creating export obstacles

BUENOS AIRES, 28 Oct—The Argentine government on Tuesday said the export obstacles Brazil had created were "unacceptable," diplomatic sources said.

Alfredo Chiarradia, secretary of economic and international commerce affairs of the Argentine Foreign Ministry, met Brazilian Ambassador to Argentina Mauro Vieria on Tuesday to forward Argentina’s complaint to Brazil.

Argentina demanded that its detained commodities in border points in transit to Brazil be released.

Cause of Argentina’s complaint was Brazil’s stopping Argentine trucks loaded with perishable products such as wheat flour, oils, garlic, wine, fruits and animal fodder.—Xinhua

S Korea reports $4.2 bln current account surplus in September

SEOUL, 28 Oct—South Korea’s current account surplus posted $4.2 billion US dollars in September on an increase in cars and semiconductors exports, up from 1.91 billion dollars in the previous month, the central bank said on Wednesday. It is the eighth consecutive month that the country’s current account remained in the black since February as imports have fallen by a faster pace than exports amid the global downturn, the Bank of Korea (BOK) said.

The goods balance logged a 5.45 billion dollars surplus in the month, up from 3.33 billion dollars surplus a month earlier, due to a decline in exports, it said.

Overseas shipments fell 7.8 percent year-on-year to $34.51 billion dollars last month, marking an elevation in the month, up from 3.33 billion dollars surplus in August, a BOK official said on Tuesday.

“We have 305,000 children under five years of age that die every year from preventable causes..." said Nils Kastberg, the UN’s Children’s Fund (UNICEF) representative.

He added that about 26,000 Sudanese women, out of a population of roughly 40 million, die each year as a result of childbirth.

“As a comparison, in the entire Latin America and Caribbean region with 550 million people, less than 10,000 mothers die giving birth," he told reporters in Khartoum.

“I think it is very important that we start getting our priorities right. I was recently in a town where there were 20 tanks but only one ambulance," he said.

Preventable diseases kill 300,000 Sudan children yearly

Khartoum, 28 Oct—More than 300,000 children under the age of five die of preventable diseases each year in Sudan, almost a third of them before they reach the age of one month, a UN official said on Tuesday.—INTERNET

Sudanese children play in the village of Lobira Boma in South Sudan’s Eastern Equatoria state on 2 October. More than 300,000 children under the age of five die of preventable diseases each year in Sudan, almost a third of them before they reach the age of one month, a UN official said on Tuesday.—INTERNET

Singapore unveils leaders’ attire for APEC 2009

SINGAPORE, 28 Oct—Singapore unveiled on Wednesday the design of the customary leaders’ attire for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in November.

The APEC Singapore 2009 leaders’ attire is designed by Singaporean Wykidd Song and taken from the inspiration of the Peranakan culture, which reflects Singapore’s identity as a multi-racial and multi-cultural society.

The dress has a lotus design with 21 petals, which represent the 21 APEC economies.

The design maintains the traditional style of craftsmanship and takes on a modern interpretation of the detailing found in the Peranakan culture’s artifacts and architecture.

Man robs shop on way to interrogation

A 41-year-old man in Germany due to face questioning over theft got himself in even more trouble by squeezing in another robbery on the way to the police station, police said.

“It was a case of ‘just nipping out to do a bit of thieving before being interrogated for shoplifting’,“ police in the western region of Lappe said.

Officers were following up a supermarket robbery in the town of Blomberg with detailed descriptions of two thieves and their getaway car when they had to return to the police station.

To their amazement, they said they discovered a man at the reception waiting to be interrogated for shoplifting who looked suspiciously like one of the pair wanted for the morning raid.

Madoff’s Mercedes station wagon up for auction

A Mercedes-Benz car once belonging to epic swindler Bernard Madoff will be auctioned this week, US authorities said.

The 2001 Mercedes E320 black station wagon will be offered on Friday with dozens of other vehicles to be auctioned by the US Marshals Service, which announced earlier that Madoff’s New York City penthouse
Prime Minister General Thein Sein arrives back from Thailand

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct—After attending the 15th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits held in Hua Hin of Thailand, Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Director-General Col Than Shin of the Government Office, Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department and departmental heads, left Springfield @ Sea Hotel for Hua Hin Airport in a motorcade at 3.45 pm Thai Standard Time on 25 October to return home.

The Prime Minister was seen off at Hua Hin Airport by Deputy Prime Minister H.E. Mr Kobksak Suhavasa of Thailand, Governor of Prapobkirikan Province Mr Veera Sriwatanatrakul and wife and officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Aung Myint, Myanmar Military Attaché Col Win Maung, embassy staff and family members.

At the airport, they garlanded the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister and party left Hua Hin Airport of Thailand at 4.15 pm Thai Standard Time by special aircraft and arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw via Yangon. —MNA

Minister U Nyan Win attends meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct—Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, who accompanied Prime Minister General Thein Sein on his tour of Thailand to attend the 15th ASEAN Summit and related summits, attended the meeting of ASEAN Coordination Committee held at the Dusit Thani Hotel in Hua Hin on 22 October afternoon.

The meeting focused on arrangements for the 15th ASEAN Summit and related summits, preparations for summits, subjects to be under discussion and announcements, declarations and documents to be issued at summits, report of the ASEAN Secretariat, report of the ASEAN SG, and the plan to approve the appointment of a deputy director-general to the ASEAN Secretariat.

Next, the minister attended the meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers. They held talks about matters on creation of a regional disaster preparedness programme, continued post-Nargis rehabilitation work, holding the 1st ASEAN-US Summit, formulation of ASEAN counterparts. They held discussions about the agreement on Privileges and Immunities of ASEAN, follow-up agreement (draft) on mechanisms to tackle possible disputes between member countries, and judicial procedures.

In the evening, the minister attended the working dinner of ASEAN foreign ministers. They held talks on high-level legal experts group on ASEAN Charter, together with ASEAN counterparts. They held discussions about the agreement on Privileges and Immunities of ASEAN, follow-up agreement (draft) on mechanisms to tackle possible disputes between member countries, and judicial procedures.

UMFCCI delegation leaves for Philippines

Delegation of UMFCCI seen at Yangon International Airport before departure for Philippines.—MNA

YANGON, 28 Oct—A 27-member delegation led by Vice President U Win Aung of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry left here by air on 26 October to attend the World Rice Conference 2009 to be held in Cebu island of the Republic of the Philippines from 27 to 29 October. It was seen off at Yangon International Airport by UMFCCI President U Win Myint and responsible persons. —MNA

Culture Minister attends 2nd Meeting of ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct—Chairman of Myanmar ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Framework Implementation Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, who accompanied Prime Minister General Thein Sein for attending the 15th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits, attended the 2nd Meeting of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council held in Hua Hin of Thailand at 2 pm on 22 October.

The minister participated in the discussions on Draft Asam-Hua Hin Declaration on Strengthening Cooperation on Education to Achieve ASEAN-Cultural Sharing Community, the Draft ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change to the 15th Session on the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 5th Session of the Conference of Parties Serving at the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the Revised Draft ASEAN Leaders’ Statement on ASEAN Connectivity, the Draft Terms of Reference of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC), the Snap-Sheet Report of the Regional Assessment on the Social Impact of the Global Financial Crisis, the Recommendations of the 5th ASEAN+3 High Level Seminar on Poverty Reduction and the ASEAN Songs and Cultural Festival. —MNA

Miss People 2009 Style contest and sales promotion on 1 Nov

YANGON, 28 Oct—Miss People 2009 Style contest and sales promotion, organized by Myanmar People magazine, will be held at Inya Lake Hotel on 1 November.

The fourth Miss People Style contest will take place in conjunction with stage show. Fashion wear, cosmetics, medical products and foodstuff will be on sale at special prices. Anyone wishing to participate in the contest may obtain the tickets at Ko Ko Beauty Salon in Dagon Center on Saya San street, La Pyae Wun Plaza, branch of Sein Gay Har Supermarket; Tony Tun Beauty Salon on 6th street and branch of Yankin Center and Smile

Yankin Center and Smile

KO Htike Salon (FMI Center) and People magazine office at La Pyae Wun Plaza’s 10th floor. The sponsors of the contest are A21, Shoes Gallery, Ba Wang Shampoo, PEP, Daily Vitagin, Smooth E, Revlon, Alpine, Wellwoman, Xennon, Dolly Bird, Slendifg and Mann Shwe Pyi transportion. —MNA
Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends…

(from page 1)

management, food and energy security, cooperative measures to address financial crisis and establishment of East Asian Community.

Next, Prime Minister General Thein Sein together with heads of State/Government from East Asian countries attended a working luncheon hosted at Napalai Ballroom (A) at 1130 am. During the working luncheon, the Australian Prime Minister presented Chinese Premier Mr Wen Jiabao, foreign ministers and economic ministers from ASEAN countries, the ASEAN Secretary-General and high ranking officials.

Next, ceremonies to sign declarations produced from the 15th ASEAN Summit and related summits were held at 1.30 pm. Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha signed MoU on Strengthening Cooperation in the Fields of Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment and another MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Intellectual Property.

Afterwards, the Thai Prime Minister handed over MoUs and Agreement to the ASEAN Secretary-General.

At the outset, the Thai Prime Minister and the Vietnamese Prime Minister made speeches on the occasion.

Next, the Thai Prime Minister delegated duties to the Vietnamese Prime Minister who will be an ASEAN Alternative Chairman in 2010.

Afterwards, heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries posed together for a documentary photo to mark the successful holding of the 15th ASEAN Summit.

MNA

continued at Royal Dusit Grand Ballroom of Dusit Thani Hotel at 2 pm, attended by heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries, the ASEAN Secretary-General and officials.

Minister U Nyan Win together with ministers from ASEAN countries signs Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of ASEAN and MoU on Establishing the ASEAN-China Centre in the presence of heads of ASEAN countries and the Chinese Premier.

Afterwards, the Thai Prime Minister handed over MoUs and Agreement to the ASEAN Secretary-General.

At the outset, the Thai Prime Minister and the Vietnamese Prime Minister made speeches on the occasion.

Next, the Thai Prime Minister delegated duties to the Vietnamese Prime Minister who will be an ASEAN Alternative Chairman in 2010.

Afterwards, heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries posed together for a documentary photo to mark the successful holding of the 15th ASEAN Summit.

MNA
NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct—Prime Minister General Thein Sein of the Union of Myanmar attended Gala dinner hosted by Prime Minister of Thailand Mr Abhisit Vejjajiva and wife at Phetchaburi Grand Hall of Holiday Inn Resort Regent Beach in Hua Hin of Thailand at 7 p.m. on 24 October.

It was also attended by King of Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah, Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Sen, President of Indonesia Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Laotian Prime Minister Mr Bouasone Bouphavanh, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Seri Mohd Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, President of Philippines Madame Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, Premier of the State Council of the People’s Republic of China Mr Wen Jiabao, Japanese Prime Minister Mr Yukio Hatoyama, President of the Republic of Korea Mr Lee Myung-bak, Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, Australian Prime Minister Mr Kevin Rudd, Prime Minister of New Zealand Mr John Key and ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Surin Pitsuwan.

Thai Prime Minister Mr Abhisit Vejjajiva and wife cordially greeted heads of State/ Government of ASEAN countries, the Premier of the State Council of the PRC, the Prime Ministers from Japan, India, Australia and New Zealand and the President of ROK. Thai Prime Minister Mr Abhisit Vejjajiva extended greetings at Gala Dinner.

Afterwards, dinner was served to those present. Thai traditional cultural troupe entertained with songs and dance during the dinner. — MNA

YANGON, 28 Oct—The Central Executive Committee meeting No. 10/2009 of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association took place at its office of Sarpay Beikman Building, here, this afternoon, with an address by meeting chairman U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung).

Secretary of MWJA Dr Tin Tun Oo (Dr Tin Tun Oo) reported on accomplishment on the minutes of previous meeting and leaders of the work groups on preparations for conducting the journalism course and arrangements for paying respects to the literati for 1371 ME.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks by the meeting chairman. — MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein together with heads of State/ Government of ASEAN countries poses for documentary photos at 15th ASEAN Summit held at Dusit Thani Hotel in Hua Hin of Thailand. (News on page 8) — MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends Gala Dinner hosted by Thai PM

Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends closing ceremony of 15th ASEAN Summit held at Dusit Thani Hotel in Hua Hin of Thailand. (News on page 8) — MNA

MWJA CEC holds coord meeting
NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct—The Illisa Dvicitta Drama Marionette Contest of the Performing Arts Competitions continued for the third day at the training hall of No. 7 Transit Centre, here, this evening.

Among the audience were Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Performing Arts Competitions Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win and wife, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thaung Lwin, members of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Nyi Tun and U Kyaw Aung and wife, departmental heads, the secretary of the work committee and members, officials of the subcommittees, members of the panel of judges (central) and those from States and Divisions.—MNA

Oil Mill and Battery Factory...

(from page 16)

The oil mill began running in 2003. Peanuts are first cleaned and dried for ensuring good quality of the oil before being crushed. Crushed peanuts are bought by chicken, pig, cattle and fish breeders as animal feed and they are said to be more demanded than peanut oil.

The factory is selling peanut oil for K 2,600 per viss and crushed peanuts for K 600 per viss. As peanut oil is reasonably priced, consumers prefer peanut oil to edible oil.

Manager U Hla Myo of the oil mill said, “Consumers sometimes use edible oil in summer and rainy season. But, they use peanut oil mostly in cold season. There is a constant demand for peanut oil in the township and we don’t even need to distribute to other regions. And, we have enough supply of raw materials, peanuts.” We then observed the production process, and found that production of scented peanut oil was not simple and easy as it seemed to be.

We also grasped an opportunity to visit Two Golden Horses battery factory of Two Golden Horses Industrial Co, Ltd in Kaungkha village industrial zone, Mehan village-tract, Lashio.

The battery factory with a capacity of 60,000 batteries per day stands as a factory of import-substitute goods. The capacity of each machine installed is 200 batteries per minute with average production of about 2 million batteries per month.

The factory produces R 20 and R 6 size Red Monkey brand and DGH brand batteries. The factory is staffed with over 100 workers including daily wage earners. The factory runs from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm daily except gazetted holidays and Sunday.

Manager U Hla Pyo said “We believe in quality and that’s why we assigned two QCs for ensuring that customers are always supplied with quality products.”

The aims of the factory are to save foreign exchange by manufacturing import-substitute goods, development of industrial technology, creation of job opportunities, to make contribution to development of the region, to supply fair-priced batteries to the public, and to increase the value of Gross National Products (GNP).

The construction work of the factory began on 21, May, 2001 and the factory started running on 27, June, 2002. DGH batteries are distributed to the whole country via Lashio, Mandalay and Yangon and are penetrating the markets of border towns of India, Thailand and Bangladesh.

Two Golden Horses battery factory was specially designed and constructed to be environmentally friendly one. The factory creates a good working environment for its workers, giving special attention to health and safety of them.

Thus, oil mill and battery factory of Lashio supply quality refined peanut oil and batteries to consumers at reasonable price and create job opportunities for local people, thereby contributing partly to development of the region.

Packaging of DGH brand batteries at Two Golden Horses battery factory in Lashio.

Production of pure peanut oil at oil mill in Lashio.

Translation: TKK

Kyemon:15-10-2009
Minister U Soe Tha attends ASEAN Economic Ministers’ Meeting and signs MoU

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct.—Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, who accompanied Prime Minister General Thein Sein of the Union of Myanmar who attended the 15th ASEAN Summit and related summits, was present at the preliminary meeting of ASEAN Economic Ministers held at Dusit Thani Hotel, Hua Hin, Thailand, on 22 October morning.

Agreements on establishment of free trade zone in ASEAN region to be adopted and future plans were discussed at the meeting.

Minister U Soe Tha also attended a meeting between ASEAN Economic Ministers and advisory committee members of ASEAN Economic Enterprise and discussed partnership between government and private sectors and future prospects. The minister then attended an explanation of automobile manufacturing federation in ASEAN region.

In the afternoon, the minister attended the 2nd ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council Meeting. Implementation of ASEAN Economic Community Council regulations of (AEC) Council and agenda of the ministerial meeting were discussed during the meeting.

In the evening, the minister attended a working dinner and touched on matters for the establishment of free trade area and observations on the integration of East Asian region between ASEAN and dialogue partners.

On 24 October morning, he attended the coordination meeting with ASEAN Economic Ministers and the Indian Commerce Minister. Vietnam and India signed the trade agreement of ASEAN-India and discussed matters relating to services and investments.

In the afternoon, he attended the 1st Meeting of Japan-Mekong Economic Ministers and discussed previous cooperation of Japan-Mekong and matters related to Japan-Mekong Summit to be held in coming November.

On 25 October afternoon, he attended the ceremony to sign declarations produced from the 15th ASEAN Summit and related summits.

Next, he signed MoU on Strengthening Co-operation in the Fields of Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment and another MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Intellectual Property together with other ASEAN Economic Ministers.—MNA

17th Performing Arts Competitions continues for 11th and final day

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct.—The 17th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued for the 11th and final day at the designated places, today. Among the audience were Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing, Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and Deputy Minister Thura U Thaung Lwin, the secretary of the work committee and members, officials of subcommittees, members of the panel of judges (central), contest pans and Supervisors of States and Divisions.

At the assembly hall of University of Agriculture in Nay Pyi Taw, a total of 12 girls took part in the basic education level (aged 15-20) boys’ xylophone contest and five women in the amateur level (second class) women’s xylophone contest.

A total of six boys took part in the basic education level (aged 15-15) girls’ mandolin contest, five in the basic education level (aged 10-15) girls’ mandolin contest, 12 men in the amateur level (second class) men’s Maha Gita song contest.

Four troupes competed in the amateur level (second class) Sorthissen + Sambhula Drama narration (Kwesitk) contest at the convocation hall of University of Veterinary Science.

At the lecture hall of University of Agriculture, seven students participated in the basic education level (aged 15-20) boys’ xylophone contest and five women in the amateur level (second class) women’s xylophone contest.

All the contests of the Performing Arts Competitions concluded in the evening.—MNA

Tip Top Brand engine oil, lubricants in circulation

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct.—Lucky Choice Co Ltd, the sole agent for Myanmar, distributes UAE-produced Tip Top Brand engine oil and lubricants in the nation.

The company is now conducting a lucky draw programme covering cash awards, TV and EVD worth over 150 million kyats. In September, representatives of the company presented TV and EVD sets to 20 winners, and EVD sets to 40 winners, and 25- and 200-liter tanks.

Wholesale centers of the products are No. 31 (B), Naungyoe Street, Tetlan Housing Estate, Bayintnaung, Mayangon Township, Yangon (Ph: 01-686086, 686064, 0950 83122, 0986 20142, 09 18 20133), and No. F/37, 6th Kywesegan Street, Chan Mya Thayar Ward, Pyiyiagun Township, Mandalay (Ph: 02 70412, 0968 04150, 09 2055830). Nationwide sale agents are Ko Myo Myint (Yin Nyein, Paung) (09 87 20617; Miba Metta (Thaton) (057-40619/09 87 01194); Ko Mo Khang Soe (Kandawlay Automobile Accessories Shop, Magway) (063-25808/09 65 60265/09 53 40167); Bo Bo Tar, Nay Pyi Taw Lwee (067-30753/30730); Ananda Gon Japan-made Automobile Accessories Shop (Shwebo) (075-22188/09 20 17176); U Ko Ko Myat (Monywa) (071-25255/25959/09 20 34839/09 21 30477); Ko Khin Maung Shwe (Pakokku) (062-29176/09 23 01176); U Khin Maung Thant (Myawaddy) (09 20 20793); U Kyi Nyein (Taunggyi) (081-22827/09 52 41118); and U Tin Win (Loikaw) (09 56 01200).—MNA

Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions conclude in Nay Pyi Taw

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Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min enjoys performance of contestants in 17th MTCPAC.—MNA

Minister U Soe Tha attends ASEAN Economic Ministers’ Meeting and signs MoU

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Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min enjoys performance of contestants in 17th MTCPAC.—MNA
A cameraman takes footage inside a tunnel near the US-Mexico border in Tijuana, Mexico, on 27 Oct, 2009.—INTERNET

Ocean acidity may cause shellfish decline

STONY BROOK, 28 Oct—US scientists say they have discovered ocean acidification might be contributing to global shellfish declines.

Stony Brook University researchers said they’ve determined relatively minor increases in ocean acidity caused by elevated carbon dioxide concentrations can impede the growth and survival of hard clams, bay scallops and Eastern oysters.

The scientists at the university’s school of marine and atmospheric sciences said their research is among the first studies looking at the effect of ocean acidification on shellfish.

Professor Chris Gobler and doctoral candidate Stephanie Talmage said they showed the larval stages of the shellfish species are extremely sensitive to enhanced levels of carbon dioxide in seawater.

British couple hijacked by Somali pirates

LONDON, 28 Oct—The boat of a British couple was hijacked by Somali pirates, Britain’s Sky News reported on Tuesday. It was reported that Paul and Rachel Chandler, 58 and 55, were heading for Tanzania from the Seychelles as part of an Indian Ocean cruise, a route near Somali waters, which are notorious for attacks on ships and small boats.

A pirate was quoted as saying that the British couple were in their hands now.

The British Foreign Ministry said it was urgently investigating the event and two Royal Navy ships were now searching the area.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said, “We are in touch with the family in Britain and the Seychelles coast guard, which continues to monitor the situation.”

An Indian cargo ship was hijacked off the coast of the Seychelles last Wednesday and its more than two dozen crew members have not been heard from since.

Psych patient stabs doc, is shot dead

BOSTON, 28 Oct.—A man stabbed a doctor while being treated at a psychiatric office at a Boston medical building on Tuesday and was fatally shot by an off-duty security officer who was armed interceded. He produced a weapon and ordered the suspect to drop the knife. And when the suspect did not comply, he shot the suspect,” said Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis.—INTERNET
Epilepsy drugs might help treat other ills

ST LOUIS, 28 Oct—US scientists say they’ve found anti-epileptic drugs may be effective in treating neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s diseases.

The researchers said they determined neurons in the brain were protected against apoptosis (a process that causes cell death) by calcium-channel blockers, which are commonly used to treat epilepsy. Assistant Professor Jianxin Bao and colleagues from the Washington University School of Medicine in St Louis said they were one of the first teams to explore the possible protective effects of blockers for T-type calcium channels. The mechanisms for neuro-protection might work in many other diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Huntington’s disease. Furthermore, they said their research suggests more than one calcium-signaling mechanism exists to regulate long- and short-term neuron survival.

One cigarette can harm healthy young adult

EDMONTON, 28 Oct—Smoking one cigarette increases the stiffness of the arteries in those ages 18-30 by 25 percent, researchers in Canada say.

Dr Stella Daskalopoulou of McGill University Health Centre in Montreal told the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress in Edmonton that arteries that are stiff or rigid increase resistance in the blood vessels, making the heart work harder — the stiffer the artery, the greater the risk for heart disease or stroke. “Young adults ages 20-24 years have the highest smoking rate of all age groups in Canada,” Daskalopoulou said. “Our results are significant because they suggest that smoking just a few cigarettes a day impacts the health of the arteries.” The study compared the arterial stiffness of young smokers — five to six cigarettes a day — to non-smokers. Arterial measurements were taken in the radial artery in the wrist, the carotid artery in the neck and in the femoral artery in the groin, at rest and after exercise. After exercise the arterial stiffness levels in non-smokers dropped by 3.6 percent, but in smokers arterial stiffness increased by 2.2 percent.

Older pregnant women refuse defect testing

LONDON, 28 Oct—A British study published on Tuesday showed an increase in Down Syndrome births because many older women refuse birth defects testing during pregnancy.

Researchers from Queen Mary, the University of London found Down syndrome pregnancies increased sharply since 1989, largely because of a rise in older women attempting to have children, The Times of London reported.

The scientists analyzed data dating back to 1989 from the National Down Syndrome Cytogenetic Register for England. The study was published online by the British Medical Journal, the newspaper said. The study showed that pre- and postnatal diagnoses increased by 71 percent, from 1,075 in 1989 to 1,843 in 2009, but the number of babies born with Down has remained constant during the same period. Down baby births fell only by approximately 1 per cent over the same period.

Smoking one cigarette in pregnancy raises cardiovascular stiffness

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WHO chief foresees end of A/H1N1 flu pandemic

HAVANA, 28 Oct—Visiting Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Margaret Chan said on Tuesday that the A/H1N1 pandemic would reach its natural end when enough people are immunized.

During a conference at the Tropical Medicine Institute Pedro Kouri in Havana, Chan said more vaccines against the A/H1N1 flu would be distributed in more than 100 developing countries, including Cuba, in November.

Chan, who arrived in Cuba on 24 Oct, said vaccines against the flu were ready in 100 developing countries, including Cuba, in November.

Chan, who arrived in Cuba on 24 Oct, said vaccines against the flu were ready in less than six months because of international cooperation and the WHO’s call for world solidarity. The WHO considered this pandemic “moderate,” despite the virus having spread at an exceptional speed, she said, adding that “the causal agent has not mutated” and its resistance to antiviral drugs was “very low.”

Iceland’s pigs infected with A/H1N1 virus

STOCKHOLM, 28 Oct—Pigs from a pork farm in Iceland have been infected with the A/H1N1 virus, according to reports reaching here from Reykjavik on Tuesday.

“The pig A/H1N1 cases from the Minni-Vatnsleysa pork farm in southern Iceland have been confirmed by the University of Iceland’s Institute for Experimental Pathology at Icelandic southern city Keldur,” said the Icelandic electronic newspaper Iceland Review.

It also said the Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority reported the first case of pigs infection in the country on Tuesday morning.

Meningitis outbreak kills four in northeastern Brazil

BRASILIA, 28 Oct—An outbreak of meningitis type C resulted in four deaths in the Bahia state of northeastern Brazil, local health secretary Messias Boaventura said on Tuesday. Four other cases have been hospitalized, and two of them are confirmed to have been infected.

Boaventura said the victims attended a party in Trancoso of Bahia on 18 Oct and did not know each other. Health officials said an ambulance would be kept at the Trancoso health center to respond to emergencies and prevent the spreading of the disease. Trancoso’s central laboratory will also work on a continuous basis to receive and process the biological samples to diagnose disease.

A miner walks through the Corocoro copper mine, some 60 km (38 miles), southeast of La Paz, Bolivia, on 27 Oct, 2009. (Xinhua)
**S P O R T S**

**Babbel on the brink after Stuttgart’s cup defeat**

BERLIN, 28 Oct—VfB Stuttgart coach Markus Babbel’s position is on the brink after the Bundesliga club suffered a 1-0 shock defeat on Tuesday in the third round of the German Cup at second division Greuther Fuerth.

Babbel was given a vote of confidence by Stuttgart’s bosses only last week, but with his side now suffering their fifth consecutive defeat and hovering above the relegation zone in the league, Babbel’s position is precarious.

“We wanted to win here and reach the next round, which we haven’t done and the situation is not easy now,” said Stuttgart’s grim-faced director of sport Horst Heldt when asked about Babbel’s position.—Internet

**Newcastle no longer for sale as Hughton handed full-time job**

NEWCASTLE, 28 Oct—Fallen giants Newcastle are no longer for sale after owner Mike Ashley took the club off the market on Tuesday and then confirmed Chris Hughton will be the Championship leaders’ permanent manager.

Hughton, who had been working as caretaker boss, has been given a contract until the end of the 2010-11 season after taking Newcastle to the top of English football’s second tier as the Magpies bid for a quick return to the Premier League.

Ashley has also pledged to put another 20 million pounds into Newcastle this week to keep them financially stable following his unsuccessful attempt to sell the club.—Internet

**Rangers power into Scottish League Cup semi-finals**

GLASGOW, 28 Oct—Rangers powered into the Scottish League Cup semi-finals with a 3-1 victory over Dundee in the last eight on Tuesday.

Walter Smith’s side, who reached the League Cup final last season, took an early lead when Steven Whittaker headed home John Fleck’s cross in the 15th minute.

Steven Whittaker Dundee’s Leigh Griffiths equalised after 29 minutes with a superb free-kick to claim his 12th goal of the season.

But the First Division leaders were denied an upset as Gary MacKenzie nodded Whittaker’s cross into his own net in the 57th minute before Fleck’s 85th minute strike, set up by Nacho Novo’s run, completed the job for the Scottish champions.—Internet

**Real Cup-hijacked by third division minnows**

MADRID, 28 Oct—Real Madrid were given a Spanish Cup shock on Tuesday when third division minnows and unheralded city neighbours Alcorcon ousted a 4-0 drubbing to the nine-time European champions.

The tiny provincial side, with a miniscule annual budget of just 1.2 million euros - 300 times less than their esteemed visitors - added a notable footnote to their modest history in front of their home fans at the 3,000-capacity Estadio Municipal de Santo Domingo.

Real were undone by the club which was only founded in 1971 with an own goal by former Liverpool defender Alvaro Arbeloa, Borja Perez’s brace, and Ernesto Gomez.

Not pleasant viewing for Real president Florentino Perez and club director Jorge Valdano watching from the stands.—Internet

**Spurs boss sees brighter future for Bentley**

LONDON, 28 Oct—Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp is optimistic that misfit midfielder David Bentley may have turned the corner at White Hart Lane after inspiring his team to victory over Everton in the fourth round of the League Cup.

The former Blackburn star created the first of Spurs’ goals in a 2-0 win on Tuesday which heaps more pressure on disgruntled Toffees manager David Moyes, who refused to turn up to the post-match press conference. “His (Bentley) attitude in training has not been as good as it could have been, I’ve told him and he accepts it, but I thought he was fantastic here,” Redknapp said of his inconsistent midfielder.

**Holders United cruise into League Cup quarter-finals**

LONDON, 28 Oct—Manchester United got back on track after their defeat against Liverpool as the League Cup holders moved into the quarter-finals with a 2-0 win over Barnsley on Tuesday.

Sir Alex Ferguson’s side suffered only their second loss of the season at Anfield on Sunday, but there was no hangover at Oakwell as goals from Danny Welbeck and Michael Owen saw off the Championship outfit.

United played the last 27 minutes with 10 men after United captain Gary Neville was shown a red card by referee Chris Foy for his lunge on Adam Hammill.

The Tykes are managed by Mark Robins, the former United striker whose winning goal in an FA Cup third round tie against Nottingham Forest in 1990 is widely held to have saved Ferguson from the sack.

**Football rounds up poor S African youngsters**

JOHANNESBURG, 28 Oct—The small girl zigzags between plastic cones with a football, hardly obstructed by her pink tulle dress as she attempts to master the game, and life lessons from her coach.

As Sinethemba, 6, grasps football skills with other children, their trainers impart crucial points that range from the importance of a healthy diet to the dangers of unprotected sex for the varying ages from five to 15 years old.

South Africa has been seized by football fever ahead of the 2010 World Cup, and FIFA is making the most of a sport loved by children to attract them into the “Football for Hope” programme in the country’s poorest townships.

Every Monday after school, children in the heart of Johannesburg’s oldest shantytown Alexandra, take part in the unconventional training where the message includes boys being encouraged to respect their female partners.

This is a crucial message in South Africa where a quarter of men admit to having raped at least once in their lifetime, according to a study done in August.—Internet

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The Tykes are managed by Mark Robins, the former United striker whose winning goal in an FA Cup third round tie against Nottingham Forest in 1990 is widely held to have saved Ferguson from the sack.

Manchester United’s English forward Danny Welbeck (R) celebrates after scoring the opening goal during the Carling Cup fourth round football match against Barnsley at the Oakwell Stadium in Barnsley. United won 2-0.—Internet

But there was never any chance of another headline grabbing win for Robin, even though Ferguson made 11 changes to the team beaten by Liverpool, with young French winger Gabriel Obertan making his debut.—Internet

Manchester United’s English forward Danny Welbeck (R) celebrates after scoring the opening goal during the Carling Cup fourth round football match against Barnsley at the Oakwell Stadium in Barnsley. United won 2-0.—Internet

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Ashley has also pledged to put another 20 million pounds into Newcastle this week to keep them financially stable following his unsuccessful attempt to sell the club.—Internet
Magnifying Mona Lisa’s smile!

A boy runs across a giant copy of the Mona Lisa as it is unveiled in Wrexham, north Wales on 28 Oct, 2009. The giant version of Leonardo da Vinci’s masterpiece measuring 17.5 metres across and 50 times bigger than the original, is an attempt to produce the largest ever reproduction of the painting. —INTERNET

BEIJING, 28 Oct—A Mona Lisa art creation that claimed the largest reproduction in the world of Da Vinci’s masterpiece has been on show at a shopping mall in Wrexham, in the United Kingdom, according to media reports Wednesday.

Dozens of adults from local community groups and youngsters from Wrexham schools colored 82 vinyl tiles to make the paint-by-numbers portrait.

At 17.5m across, and covering 240 sqm, this giant Mona Lisa is some 50 times than the original.

The massive creation is on display on a specially built plinth at the shopping mall and will be used to raise money for the children’s hospice charity.

The artwork was put together by artist Katy Webster, who graduated with a first class honours degree in fine art from North Wales School of Art and Design at Wrexham’s Glyndwr University in 2009. Pupils from Victoria Primary School and members of the Haulfan Centre, a community centre for people with disabilities, were involved in the project. Unlike the original in Louvre Museum, shoppers in Wrexham will be allowed to touch this Mona Lisa portrait.—Xinhua

WEATHER

Wednesday, 28th October, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershower has been scattered in Taninthayi Division, isolated in Shan, Mon and Kayin States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin) (0.63) inch, Nay Pyi Taw (Lewe) (0.56) inch, Nay Pyi Taw (Pyinmana) (0.24) inch, Thanlanggyi (0.91) inch, Pinluang (0.43) inch and Myeik (0.35) inch.

Maximum temperature on 27-10-2009 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 28-10-2009 was 71°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours M.S.T on 28-10-2009 was 80%. Total sun shine hours on 27-10-2009 was (8.1) hours approx.

Rainfall on 28-10-2009 was (Nil) at Mingalardon, Kabay-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-11-2009 was (111.06) inches at Mingalardon, (122.09) inches at Kabay-Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind-speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4)mph from East at (17:30) hours M.S.T on 27-10-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 29th October 2009: Rain or thundershower are likely to be scattered in Mon State and Taninthayi Division, isolated in Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Generally fair in the whole Country.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 29-10-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 29-10-2009: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 29-10-2009: Partly cloudy.
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

Oil Mill and Battery Factory of Lashio

Lashio, metropolis of Shan State (North), is developing at a great pace, because of an easy access to the region and its strategic position in border trade with neighbouring countries. Lashio is bustling with businesses and trade activities and is making progress in all sectors, along with enhanced socio-economic status of local people.

On our tour of Lashio, we visited animal feed production and oil mill and Two Golden Horses battery factory and it was really heartening to see such thriving factories.

VOA, BBC—sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB—generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed
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Physicists are discovering ways to build rogue waves out of light

Rogue waves—giant waves that spring up suddenly and tower over the seas around them—have inspired physicists to look for an analogue in light. These high-intensity pulses can cross large distances without losing information. Now a team of physicists have identified one set of conditions that produces optical rogue waves. Their findings are reported in Physical Review A and highlighted with in the October 19 issue of Physics.

Rogue waves were thought to be a sailor's tall tale until an 85-foot wave broke over an oil platform in the North Sea in 1995. Since then, scientists have tried to understand how such outsized waves arise from the erratic interactions of smaller waves on a choppy sea, with an eye toward creating them on purpose in the form of light traveling in an optical fiber.—Internet

Under the right conditions, colliding waves can add to create a rogue wave that's larger than the sum of its parts.