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Friday, 6 November, 2009

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Nov—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe this morning inspected development and construction projects of Pathein and Hinthada.

The Senior General together with Member of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 of the SPDC General Thura Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the Chairman of Ayeyawady Division PDC Commander of South-West Command, ministers, the Deputy Minister for Health and officials of the SPDC Office looked round the surroundings of Pathein Bridge across Ngawun River, development and neat and tidy of Pathein in a motorcade.

The Senior General and party then proceeded to Kanyin Dam construction project in Ingapu Township of Hinthada District from Pathein by helicopter at 10.40 am and oversaw construction work. They were welcomed there by the director-general of Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and officials.

At the briefing hall, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo reported to the Senior General on location of Kanyin Dam construction project, the area of irrigated area, full storage capacity, facts about the project, construction of main embankment, conduit, control tower, spillway and irrigation facilities, arrangements for generating small-scale hydropower through canals, plans for modern land reclamation and installation of two 2.5-megawatt-capacity generators at the dam for producing 5 megawatts hydropower.

The Senior General gave guidance on early completion of the project, completion of canals in parallel with irrigation facility, extension of irrigated areas, preparations for cultivation of cotton and sunflower, completion of hydropower projects and practising thrift.

(See page 8)
PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 6 November, 2009

Industrial development guarantees prosperous future of posterity

On his tour of Ayeyawady Division to inspect progress in reconstruction and rehabilitation of the storm-hit areas, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe left Pathein and arrived at Labutta on 4 November.

Regarding the establishment of 3rd Mile Housing Estate in Labutta, the Senior General gave guidance on fulfillingments for infrastructural buildings including roads, and supply of electric power and potable water, systematic processes for development in the economic, education and health sectors, growing landscaping plants, shady trees and perennial crop trees, and completion of ongoing construction projects ahead of the rainy season.

In an attempt to boost per capita income, local people have to regenerate the damaged farmlands with human capacities in order to exploit land sources most effectively. In addition, single monsoon paddy pattern in a year is to be replaced with multiple cropping patterns. For instance, the harvest of paddy should be followed by cultivation of suitable crops for an increase in family income.

If local people earn higher per capita incomes resulting from their hard work, that will help improve the State economic growth. Most possibly, an agricultural country can be a developing one. So, all are duty-bound to participate in the process of transforming the nation into an industrialized one for the motherland to become a developed one. It is therefore required to exert innovative approaches for industrial development to chart a prosperous future of the posterity.

The government is trying to improve infrastructures especially economic and transport ones in Ayeyawady Division. Since the unprecedented storm last year, the government has been building new roads for the Road Network Development Project. In response, local people have to harmoniously throw themselves to the projects for regional development with a sense of duty.

Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe meeting with local people in Thalumaw Village of An Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Nov—Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe met with local people from Gananyaing, Thalumaw, Taungchay, Taungthap, Laungchaung and Kanbwe villages at Thalumaw village, Ganannyaing village tract in An township on 28 October and presented clothing, for the village, exercise books and stationery for school and publications for the rural library.

Next, the commander and the minister inspected cultivation of monsoon paddy and thriving winter crops in Nyaungchaung village.

Afterwards, they met with local people in Nyaungchaung village tract and presented clothing, for the village, exercise books and stationery for school and publications for the rural library.

Upon arrival at Tattaung Basic Education High School, they looked into progress in constructing the new school building, the entrance road to Tattaung Hospital and Tattaung-Shu-Tamandu road.

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

Commander and Minister supervise regional development tasks

Talks on classifying gems through digital system held

YANGON, 5 Nov—A talk on inspecting and classifying standards of ruby, sapphire and jade through digital system, organized by Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association, was held at Central Hotel, here, on 17 October afternoon.

Vice-Chairperson Daw S Khauang Nan of the association extended greetings. Sayagyi U Tin Kyaw Than of Gemmological Science Center introduced Sayagyi U Nyan Thinn to those present. Next, Sayagyi U Nyan Thinn gave talks on facts to inspect and classify standards of ruby, sapphire and jade through digital system.

Honorary Adviser Managing Director U Them Swe presented gifts to Sayagyi U Nyan Thinn. Later, those present were served with refreshments.

Tennis course concluding ceremony of HED (lower Myanmar) held

YANGON, 5 Nov—The ceremony to conclude tennis course for Inter-University/College of Higher Education Department (lower Myanmar) under the supervision of Sports and Education Leading Committee was held in conjunction with prize presentation ceremony on 3 November.

Chairman of Tennis Committee of University of Distance Education (Yangon) of HED (lower Myanmar) pro-rector Dr Daw Khin Aye Aye made concluding remarks. She later presented certificates to the trainees.

Next, the officials presented first, second and third prizes to the winners.—MNA

Driving plane machines course opened

YANGON, 5 Nov—The opening ceremony for using plane machines course was held at Basic Wood Technological Department in Myanmar Forest Products and Timber Merchants Association, here, on 2 November.

General-Secretary of the MFPTMA U Nay Htun Min delivered an address.

It was attended by Managing Director of the MFPTMA U Win Htun and general managers, CEC members, supervisory committee members, officials and trainees.—MNA
DPRK Media blast US for finding fault with human rights

PYONGYANG, 5 Nov—An attempt by the United States and other “hostile forces” to submit the human rights issue of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) to the United Nations General Assembly was an “unsavory plot”, the official KCNA news agency said on Wednesday.

The US and other countries involved have been shown to be politicizing the human rights issue and applying double standards in handling them, the KCNA said. The DPRK will not cave in to their “human rights offensive”, it said. The official Minju Joson daily also carried a similar article against the US criticism.

It was reported that the United States, Japan, South Korea and the European Union have submitted an act on DPRK’s human rights to the UN General Assembly for discussion.

10 homes damaged in blast at nearby Utah refinery

SALT LAKE CITY, 5 Nov—An explosion at a Utah oil refinery — the second this year — smashed windows, bent garage doors and peeled siding Wednesday from 10 nearby houses, officials said. Federal investigators expressed alarm over the extent of damages caused by a refinery that has had a history of trouble dating to 2003.

The US Chemical Safety Board was investigating a January fire that burned for 11 hours when it dispatched a team to look at on Wednesday’s blast at Silver Eagle Refinery in Woods Cross, which is five miles north of Salt Lake City. In all, 10 homes were damaged, said David McSwain, president of Silver Eagle, a company that operates its only oil refinery in Woods Cross.

Five British soldiers killed, six injured in Afghanistan

KABUL, 5 Nov—Five British soldiers were killed and six others sustained injuries in Afghanistan’s southern restive region, a press release of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said on Wednesday.

“Four UK soldiers were killed, another one died of his wounds, and a further six were injured while conducting operations in Southern Afghanistan on Tuesday,” the press release added. Two Afghan National Police officers were also wounded, it further said. However, it did not give more details on the exact place of the incident. But it added that a joint ISAF and Afghan Ministry of Interior team is investigating the incident due to allegations the British soldiers may have been fired upon by Afghan security forces.

US spends most, but health quality lags

CHICAGO, 5 Nov — Americans are more likely than people in 10 other countries to have trouble getting medical treatment because of insurance restrictions or cost, an international survey of primary care doctors released on Wednesday found.

While the United States spends more than twice as much as other developed countries on healthcare, it lags well behind in key measures of quality, the annual survey found.

Our weak primary care system puts patients at risk and results in poor health outcomes and higher costs,” said Karen Davis, president of the Commonwealth Fund, a private health policy group that sponsored the survey.

“The survey provides yet another reminder of the urgent need for reform that makes acceptable, high-quality care a national priority,” Davis told a news briefing.

Other countries have solved problems the United States is still struggling to conquer, she said.

The survey of more than 10,000 primary care doctors in 11 developed countries — Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom — found problems in all of them.

Suspected US missile strike kills two in Pakistan

MIRANSHAH (Pakistan), 5 Nov—A suspected US drone aircraft fired two missiles on Thursday into North Waziristan; a major al-Qaeda and Taliban sanctuary in northwest Pakistan killing two people, Pakistani intelligence officials said.

The United States has launched 44 such strikes in Pakistan this year compared with 32 last year. Pakistani forces launched an offensive against militants in the neighbouring South Waziristan region on the Afghan border in mid-October.

Chinese cooks make the last preparations for a demonstration by Spanish chef Albert Adria in Beijing in October 2009. Chinese cuisine, famous for dumplings steamed in bamboo baskets and Peking duck slow-cooked over wood from fruit trees, seems a far cry from the high-tech equipment used in so-called molecular cuisine.

Three killed in Iraq’s violence

BAGHDAD, 5 Nov—Three people were killed, including a senior police officer and his wife, and nine others wounded in bomb and gunfire attacks near Baghdad and the volatile province of Diyala on Wednesday, police said.

A roadside bomb detonated near the car of Colonel Shalal al-Zoubai, a deputy police chief of Abu Ghraib area west of Baghdad, killing him and his wife, a local police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In separate incident, a booby-trapped car went off at a main road near the town of al-Mahmoudiyah, some 30 km south of Baghdad, winding four people, the source said.

Tropical Storm Ida batters Nicaraguan island

MADANUGA, 5 Nov—Tropical Storm Ida up-rooted trees, knocked down power lines and forced the evacuation of 300 people on Nicaragua’s Corn Island after forming on Wednesday and quickly gaining strength in the southwestern Caribbean.

The storm was threatening to become a hurricane before making landfall in Nicaragua on early Thursday morning.

Heavy rains and winds already pounded the popular resort of Corn Island, knocking down trees, electrical lines and telephone poles. Much of the island had lost and phone service, said Lt Col Reinaldo Carrion, the civil defense chief in Bluefields, the city nearest to the island.

File photo shows a man lies on a hospital bed as he waits for doctors to run tests inside the emergency room at Ben Taub General Hospital in Houston, Texas.

In Diyala, an anonymous provincial police source told Xinhua that a civilian was shot dead and two others, including a woman, were wounded when unknown gunmen showered them with bullets in a village located some 35 km east of the provincial capital of Baquba.

Iraqi security forces immediately cordoned off the scene and searched the area, arresting four suspects for interrogation, the source said.

In separate incident, a booby-trapped car went off at a main road near the town of al-Mahmoudiyah, some 30 km south of Baghdad, winding four people, the source said.

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China seeks to boost economic, trade ties with Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea

BEIJING, 5 Nov—Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang, during a recent visit to Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea, reached comprehensive agreements with the three countries’ leaders on further enhancing bilateral economic and trade relations, Vice Commerce Minister Yi Xiaozhun said on Thursday.

Asia stocks drop amid economic recovery doubts

SINGAPORE, 5 Nov—Asian stocks markets dropped on Thursday as the US Federal Reserve failed to reassure investors that a lasting recovery in the global economy was taking hold.

The US central bank decided on Wednesday to keep a key interest rate at a record low and said credit would continue for an “extended period” as the world’s largest economy struggles to regain its footing after its worst downturn ever in the global economy.

Li’s official visit to the three countries from 29 Oct to 5 Nov has greatly pushed forward bilateral economic and trade cooperation with the three sides, Yi said in an article published on Thursday on the People’s Daily newspaper.

During the visit, Li discussed with the leaders of the three countries means of enhancing bilateral cooperation, fighting the current global financial crisis, rejecting trade and investment protectionism, and maintaining healthy and stable development of economic and trade ties against the backdrop of the global recession, said Yi.

The visit is of far-reaching significance as it has unleashed in a new phrase of bilateral economic and trade cooperation with the three countries, he added.

Eurozone industrial producer prices fall in September

BRUSSELS, 5 Nov—Industrial producer prices in the euro zone fell 0.4 percent in September from the previous month, the European Union (EU)’s statistics bureau Eurostat said on Wednesday.

Compared with September 2008, industrial producer prices in the 16-nation bloc that uses the euro fell 7.7 percent.

In September, compared with the previous month, prices in total industry, excluding the energy sector, remained stable in both the euro area and the whole EU region, while prices in the energy sector fell 1.9 percent and 2.6 percent respectively.

Prices in intermediate goods increased 0.2 percent and while the prices of durable consumer goods and non-durable consumer goods decreased 0.1 percent.

In the 27-nation EU, industrial producer prices dropped 0.7 percent month on month in September and fell 7.3 percent year on year.

Toyota Motor posts Q2 profit, upgrades outlook

TOKYO, 5 Nov—Toyota Motor, the world’s largest automaker, announced on Thursday a surprise return to profit and upgraded its outlook for the rest of the year helped by demand for fuel-efficient cars.

Toyota posted a net profit of 21.8 billion yen (240 million dollars) for the fiscal second quarter to September, sharply lower than a year earlier but much better than the first quarter’s 77.8 billion-yen loss.

Operating profit dropped 65.8 percent year-on-year to 26.9 billion yen as revenue fell 24.4 percent to 4.23 trillion yen, a company statement said.

Toyota’s vehicle sales declined in each region, but the company made progress in cutting costs, said vice president Yoichiro Ichimaru.

“In addition, demand-stimulating measures by governments worldwide have contributed to our revised targets for the full fiscal year,” he added.

GM plans 10,000 job cuts at Opel

BERLIN, 5 Nov—General Motors said on Wednesday it wanted to cut around 10,000 jobs at its European division Opel a day after the US car maker stunned the auto sector by scrapping plans to sell the German-based unit.

GM wants to slash costs by 30 percent at Opel, which would mean the elimination of about 10,000 jobs from a workforce of 55,000, GM vice president John Smith told European journalists during a telephone news conference.

General Motors said on Tuesday it was abandoning a project to sell Opel to Canadian auto parts manufacturer Magna International and state-owned Russian bank Sberbank, saying it would implement its own restructuring at the unit.

Microsoft sheds 800 more jobs

SAN FRANCISCO, 5 Nov—Microsoft Corp on Wednesday said it is cutting 800 more jobs in addition to the initial target of 5,000 layoffs the company announced in January.

With the new announcement, the total number of the broad cutbacks, the first major layoffs in the company’s history, will be 5,800. Lou Gelsom, a Microsoft spokesman, was quoted by The Seattle Times as saying.

According to a report on the newspaper’s website, Gelsom didn’t rule out additional cuts ahead as the world’s largest software company continually adjusts its business.
Iran, Syria favour regional stability, peace

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (R) meets with Syrian Foreign Minister Walid Muallem (L) in Teheran, capital of Iran, on 4 Nov, 2009. —XINHUA

TEHERAN, 5 Nov—Iran’s Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said on Wednesday that Iran and Syria favour regional stability and peace and respect national sovereignty of the neighbouring states, the official IRNA news agency reported.

Mottaki made the remarks in a joint press conference with his visiting Syrian counterpart Walid Muallem.

“We share common stance with Syria on establishment of stability in the region and respect for national sovereignty of the neighbouring states,” Mottaki was quoted as saying.

On Lebanon, Mottaki said that sincere cooperation among all Lebanese political parties would help bring prosperity for the great Lebanese nation, the report said.

Asked about reports over the seizure of an Iranian cargo ship off the coast of Israel, the Syrian foreign minister said that “such a thing is not correct and the ship was moving from Syria to Iran and was not carrying any weapons nor the equipment to construct weapons,” according to IRNA.

Syria is Iran’s closest ally in the region and the two countries enjoy common cultural, political and economic interests. Syria and Iran take Israel as their foe and support Lebanese Shiite armed group Hezbollah and Palestinian Islamic Hamas movement in their struggle against Israel.

Xinhua

Six school children drown as boat capsizes in S India

NEW DELHI, 5 Nov—At least six school children have drowned and more than two dozen went missing when a boat they were riding capsized the in Aricode area of Malapurram district in Kerala, southern India, said police.

Police and locals were looking for the missing children in an intensive search operation launched by the local magistrate officials, said a senior police officer over phone.

He said only a few school children managed to swim to survival while most of some 30 were feared dead.

Xinhua

Ukraine vows to pay for Russian natural gas on time

KIEV, 5 Nov—Ukrainian state energy company Naftogaz will pay for Russian gas on time, Energy Minister Yuri Prodan said on Wednesday.

Russia recently warned of new gas crisis with Ukraine and urged the European Union (EU) to lend Kiev money.

“Of course we will be paying on time. At the moment Naftogaz is putting together the resources to pay up for gas by the deadlines foreseen in the contract,” Prodan told a news conference.

He said the October bill, which must be settled by 7 Nov, amounted to 460 million US dollars and that Naftogaz had various financial resources including “its domestic activities and also domestic bonds” that could be sold to the central bank.

Six days ago, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin accused Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko of blocking the transfer of funds to pay for Russian gas.

Xinhua

Typhoon Mirinae kills at least 99 in Vietnam

HANOI, 5 Nov—At least 99 people were killed as typhoon Mirinae slammed Vietnam, according to a report of the government’s website on Thursday.

The people’s committee of central province Phu Yen, the hardest-hit province by typhoon Mirinae, said floods and strong winds have claimed at least 69 lives in this single province.

The provincial people’s committee of Binh Dinh said that there have been so far 13 deaths and three other missing in the typhoon, making the province the second worst-hit. The third-hardest-hit central province by the typhoon is Khanh Hoa with 12 deaths and one missing, said the provincial people’s committee.

Central highland Gia Lai reported four deaths and central Ninh Thuan province reported one death.

Xinhua

Typhoon Mirinae killed at least 99 in Vietnam

Xinhua

Egypt, Uganda in fresh talks over use of River Nile water

KAMPALA, 5 Nov—Egypt and Uganda are in new talks about the use of the River Nile water after previous negotiations with riparian countries failed to reach a compromise, a top Egyptian government official on a visit here said on Wednesday.

Mona Omar, the assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for African Affairs, told reporters that a delegation of Egyptian experts were sent to Uganda about a week ago with new proposals for a compromise clause into the proposed Nile Water Basin Cooperative Framework agreement.

She did not however reveal what the proposals are but said the Egyptian team had already met its Ugandan counterpart.

“We think that the only way for us the riparian countries is just cooperation, if we don’t cooperate then the agreement will be useless,” she said.

“We agreed on about 98 percent of the agreement, it is only two or three points that we did not agree on,” she added. Tension has been brewing between Egypt, Sudan and other Nile basin countries including Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, and Ethiopia over the content of colonial agreements that favored Egypt and Sudan over exploitation of the Nile.

—Xinhua

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

File photo shows a Malaysian Department of Wildlife and National Parks inspector looking at seized coloured-processed python skins at their headquarters in Kuala Lumpur. —XINHUA

A buyer chooses food during the 106th China Export and Import Trade Fair, or Canton Fair, in Guangzhou, south China’s Guangdong Province, on 2 Nov, 2009. —XINHUA

Chinese artist Tian Fengyin (R) introduces her works to French Finance Minister Christine Lagarde at the opening ceremony of an exhibition of Tian’s works in Paris, capital of France, on 3 Nov, 2009. —XINHUA

"We agreed on about 98 percent of the agreement, it is only two or three points that we did not agree on," she added. Tension has been brewing between Egypt, Sudan and other Nile basin countries including Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, and Ethiopia over the content of colonial agreements that favored Egypt and Sudan over exploitation of the Nile.

—Xinhua
UN relocating about 600 staff after Afghan attack

KABUL, 5 Nov—The United Nations said on Thursday that it is temporarily relocating more than half its staff in Afghanistan following last week’s deadly Taliban attack against UN workers — the most direct targeting of its employees during decades of work in the country.

The UN mission is still reeling from the pre-dawn assault on a guesthouse in the capital that left five UN staff dead.

Though the UN insists it remains committed to Afghanistan, its actions show how much security has degraded in the country and raise questions about the future of its work if attacks continue.

The relocations follow a UN decision on Monday to suspend much of its work in the volatile northwest of neighbouring Pakistan because of increasingly targeted attacks.—Internet

Saudi soldier killed in Yemen border fighting

RITIYAH, 5 Nov—A clash between Saudi forces and Yemeni rebels left one Saudi and one rebel dead, the two sides said on Wednesday, as Yemen’s five-year-old insurgency spilled over the frontier for the first time.

Riyadh said that one border guard was killed and 11 others wounded when armed infiltrators attacked them inside Saudi territory in the mountainous border region of Jabal al-Dukhan, the official SPA news agency said.

The attack took place just over the frontier from an area where Yemeni forces have been fighting Zaidi Shiite rebels for weeks.—Internet

Quake injures 700 in southern Iran

TEHERAN, 5 Nov—An earthquake struck a key port city in southern Iran early on Wednesday, injuring at least 700 people and cutting power and telephone lines, the state news agency reported.

IRNA said 100 of the injured had been hospitalized while the rest were minor cases.

The 4.9-magnitude quake struck Bandar Abbas at 2:56 am local time, sending residents streaming into the streets.

Bandar Abbas is home to a large oil refinery that primarily serves the domestic market.

The broadcast said there were no reports of deaths in the quake, which hit 850 miles (1,367 kilometres) south of the capital.

Iran is located on seismic fault lines and is prone to earthquakes.

It experiences at least one slight earthquake everyday on average.

Some 26,000 people were killed by a 6.6-magnitude quake that flattened the historic southeastern city of Bam in the same region in 2003.—Internet

One-third of US youth unfit for military

WASHINGTON, 5 Nov—More than one-third of Americans ages 17-24 are unqualified for military service because of physical and medical issues, US military officials said.

Curt Gilroy, the Pentagon’s director of accessions, said the United States has “an obesity crisis.”

“There’s no question about it,” Gilroy told the Navy Times. “Kids are just not able to do push-ups, and they can’t do pull-ups. And they can’t run.”

The Pentagon figures — 35 percent of the roughly 31.2 million Americans ages 17-24 are ineligible for military service — are drawn from data from the Centers for Disease Control. In a study scheduled to be released on Thursday in Washington, US Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and a group of retired military officers say young Americans’ lack of overall fitness for military duty is a national security threat, the Navy Times reported.

The report, drawing on Pentagon data, says almost three out of four 17- to 24-year-olds are ineligible for service for a variety of reasons including:

— 35 percent ineligible for medical/physical problems.
— 18 percent ineligible for illegal drug use.
— 9 percent ineligible for mental problems.
— 6 percent have too many dependents.
— 5 percent have a criminal record.—Internet

Iranian medics treat a man injured during Wednesday’s earthquake at the port city of Bandar Abbas 850 miles (1,367 kilometres) south of the capital Teheran, Iran, on 4 Nov, 2009. Iran’s state news agency says an earthquake has injured at least 700 people in the country’s south. IRNA reported on Wednesday that 100 of the injured had been hospitalized while the rest were minor cases.—Internet

Space hotel to open in 2012 at $4.4 mn 3-night rate

The first commercial space hotel is expected to open in 2012, according to a plan of the Galactic Suite Space Resort company as quoted by media reports.

If the hotel opens, the Barcelona, Spain-based architects of Galactic Suite say it will cost about 4.4 million US dollars for a three-night stay at the hotel.

Galactic Suite plans to transport its travelers to space via Russian rockets from a spaceport to be built on a Caribbean island. The trip to the hotel will take one day and a half and guests will undergo an eight-week training course in the Caribbean prior to launch.

The hotel is expected to be constructed of connecting pods around a central hub. Each pod will be able to hold four guests and two astronaut-pilots.

During guests’ stay, they would see the sun rise 15 times a day and travel around the world about every 80 minutes. They would wear velcro suits so they can crawl around their pod rooms by sticking themselves to the walls like Spidersman.

Galactic Suite Ltd’s CEO Xavier Claramunt, a former aerospace engineer, said the project will put his company at the forefront of an infant industry with a huge future ahead of it, and forecast space travel will become common in the future.

A morning commute seems like a good time to embark on an ambitious train of thought.

At least, that was the idea from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, which put a professor on a train on Wednesday to lecture commuters.

Passengers on the 9:00 am train from the suburban community of Modiin to Tel Aviv put away their morning tabloids and iPods to listen to a talk from Professor Hanoch Gutfreund on “Einstein’s love letters.”

The lecture was the first of the university’s “scientists on the rails” programme — an attempt to broaden the appeal of higher education and bring academia to the people.

Ceyun Bainco feeds a young Tibetan antelope at Sonam Daje Natural Protection Station in Hol Xi Natural Reserve in Northwest China’s Qinghai Province, on 23 Oct, 2009.

Tweeters ask: is there anybody (famous) there?

Tweeters are being invited to submit questions for the spirits of departed celebrities including Michael Jackson and William Shakespeare as part of the world’s first Twitter seance.

A psychic medium will then try to contact the stars — who were chosen along with actor River Phoenix and Nirvana’s Kurt Cobain from nominations sent in by the public — at the London-based seance on Friday, the day before Halloween. Other prominent dead figures nominated by tweeters keen to pose questions during the “tweense” included John Lennon, Marilyn Monroe, Abraham Lincoln and Houdini.
**A & I Minister meets guests**

**NAY PYI TAW, 5 Nov—**Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Hay Oo met Managing Director U Pyi Soe of Golden Momentum Production Co Ltd and Mr Tan Pi Sin from Malaysia at 1 pm, and Chairman Mr Mizuno Hisashi from Jissen Kankyo Kenkyujo Inc in Japan at 1.50 pm at his office here.

**Minister Maj-Gen Hay Oo receives Managing Director U Pyi Soe of Golden Momentum Production Co Ltd and Mr Tan Pi Sin from Malaysia.—MNA**

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**Yangon Mayor’s Cup Tennis Tournament**
**2009 on 14-20 Nov**

**YANGON, 5 Nov—**Organized by Yangon City Development Committee, the Yangon Mayor’s Cup Tennis Tournament 2009 with the sponsorship of Myanmar Tennis Federation, will take place at Theinbyu Tennis court, here, from 14 to 20 November.

The events in the tourney are team-wise event, open men’s event (singles), open women’s event (singles), open men’s event (doubles), open women’s event and, U-10, U-12 and U-14 men’s and women’s event (singles). In team-wise event, every team can form with six to seven players including one player aged over 45-year state and division level, one over 50-year state and division level player and over 60-year selected players.

The players for U-10 Junior tennis events must be ones who were born on 1, August, 1997 and for U-14, born on 1, August, 1995.

Those wishing to participate in the tourney need to enroll before 13 November at noon at the MTF. A leader from each team is to be present at MTF’s office to draw match fixtures at 1 pm on 13 November.

**MNA**

**Workshop on ensuring high pass rate of matriculation examination in Mon State**

**YANGON, 4 Nov—**A briefing on the workshop on ensuring high pass rate of matriculation examination in Mon State took place at No. 6 basic Education High School, Mawlamyine on 24 October. At the briefing, Mon State Education Officer U Min Tun Tin explained dos and don’ts and rules and regulations to be followed by teachers and supervisors and fundamental rules to be followed by students. Then the state education officer and officials answered the queries raised by the teachers attending the briefing.

**MNA**

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**Deputy Religious Minister carries out religious tasks in India**

**NAY PYI TAW, 5 Nov—**On behalf of the government of the Union of Myanmar, a Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko left Yangon International Airport by air and arrived in Gaya of India on 26 October to attend the 2nd Mahavihara robe offering ceremony of Mahavihara region at Bodh Gayaa Myanmar Monastery in Gaya of India.

Accompanied by Myanmar Ambassador U Kyi Thein, the Myanmar delegation donated robes and offerings to Bodh Gayaa Myanmar monastery, Maha Bawdi Dhamma Yeikhto, Maha Aungmye Monastery, Kanbauzwa Monastery, and Student Monks’ Monastery in Gaya and Myanmar monastery in Rajgarh and supplicated on religious affairs.

On 29 October, the deputy minister and party attended the 2nd Mahavihara robe offering ceremony of Mahavihara region at Bodh Gayaa Myanmar Monastery.

**MNA**

**21st Myanmar Orthopaedic Conference commences**

**YANGON, 4 Nov—**The 21st Myanmar Orthopaedic Conference of Myanmar Medical Association was opened at the hall of MMA in Mingala Taungnyunt Township this morning.

Medical Superintendent Dr Nu Nu Tha of Yangon General Hospital read the opening address of the Minister for Health, Chairman of MMA Professor Dr Kyaw Myint Naing and Chairman of Orthopaedics Society Brig-Gen Tun formally opened the conference.

Altogether 150 orthopaedic surgeons are attending the conference. A total of 10 papers from abroad and 21 at home will be submitted to the conference. The medical seminars and the training courses will be conducted.

The conference where pharmaceutical companies open 30 medicines and pharmaceutical equipment booths will last up to 7 November.—MNA
Thanks to united strengths...

(from page 1)

Construction of the Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is implementing Kanyin Dam construction project on Kanyin Creek in Innapu Township, Ayeyawady Division.

The dam is of earth type with 3,780 feet long main embankment and 2,850 feet long saddle dyke. The height of the embankment is 194 feet. The dam can generate 5 megawatts and arrangements are being made for installation of small-scale turbines at the canals to generate electricity.

Upon completion, the project can irrigate 25,000 acres of farmlands. The project is scheduled to be completed in 2010-2011 and thirty-one per cent of the whole project has been completed so far.

Next, the Senior General inspected construction work from observation tower. The Senior General and party then proceeded to Hinthada and looked round the development of the town in a motorcade.

The Senior General met with departmental personnel, members of social organizations, town elders from townships in Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Division.

Thanks to concerted efforts of health staff and medical personnel of the entire nation, preventive measures were effectively taken against spread of infectious diseases and loss of lives, he said. The Senior General said that as the condition of storm-affected regions went down to the zero level due to the loss and damage, the households and businesses of the local people were rehabilitated after undertaking the first-step relief measures. Arrangements were made for reconstruction of destroyed schools, hospitals and clinics as soon as possible, he noted. Moreover, the Senior General recounted that the damaged villages were rebuilt as new ones in safe places.

The Senior General said that in so doing, the entire people of the nation cooperated with the government in carrying out the heavy task as a national duty. He noted that thanks to the united strengths of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw, the storm-hit regions returned to normalcy within one year. Upholding the concept that the collapse of the earthen bricks will be substituted with stone bricks, the rehabilitation tasks could be undertaken successfully, he added.

As a result of carrying out rehabilitation tasks systematically, the local people can enjoy the taste of new improved condition, he pointed out. He continued to say that cyclone shelters, life saving hillocks and roads are under construction in the regions as part of efforts to prevent the dangers of possible storms, and these tasks will be completed soon.

The Senior General explained that in addition to existing roads of the region, vigorous efforts are being made in constructing 10 new roads of Ayeyawady Division Road Network Development Project and necessary large and small bridges.

With regard to the health sector, the Senior General pointed out that Labutta and Pyapon were equipped with 200-bed hospitals and Bogale and Mawlamyine with 100-bed facilities, and new schools were also
opened in the regions, he noted. In conclusion, the Senior General explained that government made utmost efforts for enabling the storm-ravaged regions to enjoy the new conditions and new life and to stand on their own strengths in the region.

A local reported to the Senior General on requirements for regional development and better transportation. The Senior General said that he will observe it to fulfil the requirements, and cordially greeted those present.

Along the way from Hinthada to Zalun, the Senior General and party viewed thriving monsoon paddy plantation, harvesting of paddy and lush and green forests.

At Manaungmyin Pyidawpyan Pagoda in Zalun, the Senior General and party were welcomed by departmental officials, members of the pagoda board of trustees and officials.

The Senior General and party paid homage to the Buddha image by offering flowers, water and lights. Those who accompanied the Senior General also donated gold foils to the Buddha image.

The Head of State and party left Zalun by helicopter and arrived at Ayeyawady Bridge (Nyaungdon) and it will be a rail-cum-road bridge.

The bridge will be 7402 feet long in total and its clearance will be 262 feet wide and 55 feet high.

On completion, the people from Yangon will have easy access to towns and villages on the western bank of Ayeyawady River including Pathein by train or by car in a short time.

Pathein-Yangon railroad, to be constructed by Myanma Railways of the Ministry of Rail Transportation, will pass through five towns namely Pathein, Einme, Pantanaw, Nyaungdon and Hlinethaya. On completion, the new railroad will link with Pathein-Hinthada-Kyangin-Pakokku railroad and such facility will contribute to development of the western bank of Ayeyawady River.

After that, the Head of State and party left there by helicopter and arrived in Yangon in the evening.

Thanks to united strengths...

(from page 8)

The Yangon United Football Club made a donation of lunch to School for the Disabled at No. 65 Kyawkwaing Pagoda Road, Mayangon Township yesterday.

President U Pyae Phyo Teza of YUFC and responsible persons of the club, coach and players attended the ceremony and donated K 11,570,000 to the headmistress earning from the profits of the Collector’s Shop launched by YUFC, exclusive member fees and entrance fees for sports ground.

The teachers and students spoke words of gratitude and made wishes for success of the YUFC.

The YUFC also donated K 500,000 to senior sports writers on 1 November.

YUFC’s donations for School for the Disabled

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MNA

YUFC makes a charity lunch for School for the Disabled.

MNA
Cash donation ceremony for victims of natural disaster

NAVPYITAW, 5 Nov—A ceremony to hand over donations of the Government of Myanmar to the Governments of the Republic of Indonesia, Republic of the Philippines and the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, as humanitarian assistance to earthquake victims in Padang, West Sumatra, Indonesia, to victims of Typhoon Ketsana in the Philippines and Laos during the end of September 2009, was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Yangon at 1pm today. The ceremony was attended by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Win, Directors-General and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador of Indonesia to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono, Ambassador of the Philippines to Myanmar H.E. Ms. Maria Hellen M. Barber and Ambassador of Lao PDR to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Kouily A. Souphakhet and embassy officials.

After conveying words of condolence on the devastation caused by the above-mentioned natural calamities, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Win handed over the cash donation of US$ 50,000 each to H.E. Mr. Sebastianus Sumarsono, Ambassador of Indonesia, and to H.E. Ms. Maria Hellen M. Barber, Ambassador of the Philippines and US$ 30,000 to H.E. Mr. Kouily A. Souphakhet, Ambassador of Lao PDR who returned words of thanks.—MNA

Office refresher course No 3/2009 concludes

NAVPYITAW, 5 Nov—A ceremony to close office refresher course No 3/2009, organized by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism was held at the assembly hall of the ministry, here, this morning, with a concluding speech by Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing. Next, the deputy minister, the director-general and the managing director presented completion certificates to the trainees. Twenty trainees from the ministry and six from Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone were attending the 6-week course. MNA

Former Japanese Prime Minister arrives for ASCOJA Conference 2009

YANGON, 5 Nov—Wellwishers today donated cash to the funds for paying respects to doyen literati on Sarosdaw Day. Dr Daw Khin Khin Yi (Shine Hope Co) donated K 917,000, Myanmar Music Asiyon K 300,000, Col Aung Nyein (Retd)-Daw San San Lwin and family, writer U Chit Naing (Chit Naing-Psychology) and Naing Sarpy, Lt-Col Ohn Maung (Reitd) (Mynma Maung Maung Moe)-Daw Khin Aye Mu, U Kyaw Win (Manoktha Kyaw Win), physician U Aung Zayar Min (Aung Zayar Min) and U Khin Maung Than (Zan Zan) of Morn-Ing Post journal K 100,000 each, U Aung Min (Min Yoe Yin) and family and Dagon Myothit (North) Township WJA K 20,000 each, Ahlon Township WJA K 10,000, palmist Dr U San Tin Aung (Shwebo) handbags worth K 150,000, Khaing Thaizin Co packets of tea worth K 100,000, Dewayekhktatra-dional industry and traditional practitioner U Myint Thein traditional medicine worth K 100,000, Myanmar As- trologer Association and Myanmar Veda Research Association copies of calendars for year 2010 worth K 150,000 each.

Cash donated to funds for doyen literati

Michael Campbell to meet with CEC members of Na-tional Unity Party at its head-quarters and representatives of the remaining officially registered political parties at the hotel where he put up, he did not meet them. Instead, he separately met some persons who are still being scruti-nized at the residence of charge d’affaires of US embassy on their own arrange-ment.—MNA

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US delegation led by Secretary of State for Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs

YANGON, 5 Nov—AUS delegation led by Secretary of State for Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs Mr Kurt Michael Campbell arriving in Yangon met with CEC members of National League for Democracy at its headquarters in Bahan township from 3.35 pm to 4.35 pm yesterday.

At the lounge of Yangon International Airport by air at 7.30 pm, Mr Kurt Michael Campbell met with reporters of Myanmar Foreign Correspondent Club and editorial staff of local newspapers and magazines and read out the news release. Next, the delegation led by Secretary of State for Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs Mr Kurt Michael Campbell left Yangon by air at night. Although arrangements have been made for Mr Kurt Michael Campbell to meet with CEC members of Na-tional Unity Party at its head-quarters and representatives of the remaining officially registered political parties at the hotel where he put up, he did not meet them. Instead, he separately met some persons who are still being scruti-nized at the residence of charge d’affaires of US embas-sy on their own arrange-ment.—MNA

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Fla. baby missing for 5 days found alive under bed

CHIPLEY, Fla. 5 Nov—A baby missing for five days was found alive and well under her baby sitter’s bed, and Florida authorities said Thursday they plan to charge the sitter, her husband and the child’s mother.

Investigators found 7-month-old Shannon Dedrick in a box tucked under a bed surrounded by items intended to hide the child at Susan Elizabeth Baker’s home near Chipley, a rural Panhandle town. Washington County Sheriff Bobby Haddock said in an interview early Thursday. The baby was placed in protective custody.

“Statistically speaking this should not have ever happened, that we found this child alive, especially after so many days. Time was against us,” Haddock said.

Shannon was taken to a hospital but appeared healthy, Haddock said.

“It was very emotional for us, because once we got her to the hospital, we called our wives and every one of us was crying. Grown men crying. It’s just such a relief,” he said. “We’ve had missing children cases in the past, but nothing like this.”

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Friday, 6 November, 2009

Two killed, 8 wounded in ambush in S. Philippines

MANILA, 5 Nov—Two passengers were killed and eight wounded when unidentified armed men attacked the bus they were on board in Zamboanga del Norte in southern Philippines Wednesday morning, local media reports said Thursday.

The incident occurred around 3 a.m., as the bus was leaving from the town of Gutalac, bound for the provincial capital of Dipolog city. Wounded passengers were brought to the nearby Liloy District Hospital.

Vietnam calls on Israel to respond to world appeals

UNITED NATIONS, 5 Nov—Vietnam here Wednesday voiced concern over the “absence of Israel’s cooperation”, as well as their failure to take “precautious measures” to prevent further abuses of international and human rights law. Bui The Giang, Vietnamese deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, made these remarks at his address during the plenary General Assembly session here to consider the Goldstone report, which accused both Israel and Hamas militants of war crimes during the 22-day Gaza conflict that broke out on December 27, 2008.

“The continued imposition of Israeli blockade and collective punishment against Gaza has further deepened the Palestinian people’s trauma and plight to this day,” he said. “We support the report’s calls for respect and for compliance with international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, and its emphasis on the need to end impunity and establish justice and responsibility through accountability mechanisms,” the ambassador said.

The currently explosive nature of the regional situation makes it all the more imperative for the parties concerned to renounce the use of force and acts of violence,” he said, adding that the parties need to take the necessary steps for peace.

Russian FM visits Cyprus to strengthen ties

NICOSIA, 5 Nov—Visiting Russian Foreign Minister Sergey V. Lavrov held talks with Cyprus Government on Wednesday, which centered on regional and bilateral issues and on the long standing Cyprus problem.

Issues discussed in talks both at the Foreign Ministry and earlier during a meeting with Cyprus President Demetris Christofias included boosting bilateral cooperation in European institutions and international organizations, the Middle East, Iraq and the Iranian nuclear programme and other regional problems. Sergey Lavrov and his Cypriot counterpart, Marcos Kyrianiou later told a joint Press conference that the positions of Russia and Cyprus on issues discussed are either identical or very close.

“Our will for further steps of cooperation was affirmed,” said Sergey Lavrov after the talks and the signing of a programme on cooperation in the fields of science, education and culture and the approval of a Plan of Consultation between the Foreign Ministries of the Russian Federation and Cyprus.

Russian FM visits Cyprus to strengthen ties

Croatian, Slovenian PMs sign border arbitration agreement

STOCKHOLM, 5 Nov—Croatian Prime Minister Jadranka Kosor and Slovenian Prime Minister Borut Pahor on Wednesday signed a border arbitration agreement between the two countries. “I’m convinced that this is a good agreement for both Croatia and Slovenia, and also for Europe. It is a win-win-win situation,” Kosor said.

The agreement also creates a new chapter for bilateral relations between the two countries, she said. “It opens the door for us to deepen political, economic and other kind of cooperation between the two countries,” Pahor said. Swedish Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt, whose country holds the presidency of the European Union, hosted the signing ceremony in Stockholm.—MNA/Xinhua

The statue of Autobot “Bumblebee” stands in front of Sydney Opera House in Australia, 5 Nov, 2009. This statue set up for Global Tour of movie “Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen”, in order to promote its DVD and Blue-ray Disc, which launched on 5 Nov, 2009.—INTERNET

Two killed, 8 wounded in ambush in S. Philippines

The night view of the China’s Wetland Museum is shown in this picture taken in Hangzhou, east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 28 Oct, 2009. The museum, which opened to the public on Monday, is located in Xixi Wetland Park in Hangzhou.——XINHUA

Two killed, 8 wounded in ambush in S. Philippines

Floral classic : A model presents a creation by Indian designer Shantanu Goenka during the Wills India Fashion Week (WIFW) Spring Summer 2010 in New Delhi.——XINHUA

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THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Friday, 6 November, 2009
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MSCP VILLACH VOYNO (MCP-007)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCP VILLACH VOYNO (MCP-007) are here by notified that the vessels will be arriving on 6.11.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SANYO receives tender offer from Panasonic
Tokyo, 5 Nov—Electronics maker Panasonic on Thursday launched a tender offer to acquire more than 50 percent in rival Sanyo, aiming to make the company a subsidiary in a deal worth 400 billion yen (4.44 billion dollars).

Panasonic decided to make an offer for Sanyo last year, aiming to gain access to the electronic maker’s green battery technology. Sanyo develops solar-cell technology and batteries for hybrid cars.

If the deal goes through, the new company will be Japan’s second-largest electronics maker, after Sony.

The offer is on the table until 7 Dec, but with Goldman Sachs, Daiwa Securities and the Sumitomo-Mitsui group all signaling they will agree to sell their shares, Panasonic is likely to see the deal go through.

Panasonic is willing to pay 131 yen per share, but Sanyo was trading at 216 yen per share on Wednesday.

According to a report on Thursday, Panasonic will be able to pay 131 yen per share, but Sanyo was trading at 216 yen per share on Wednesday.

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Breastfeeding good for babies and moms

GAINESVILLE, 5 Nov — The American Dietetic Association has issued a position paper touting the benefits of breastfeeding for both US infants and mothers.

The position paper, published in the Journal of the American Dietetic Association, says exclusive breastfeeding provides optimal nutrition and health protection for the first six months of life, and breastfeeding with complementary foods from six months until at least 12 months of age is the ideal feeding pattern for infants.

The position paper, written by registered dietitians Delores CS James of the University of Florida and Rachelle Lessen of the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia says the evidence-based review finds:

— Human milk reduces the risk for a large number of acute and chronic illnesses. It reduces risk for sudden infant death syndrome.

— Breastfeeding improves maternal health and well-being, and saves families money and time.

— Breastfeeding boosts the immune system in babies, and reduces the risk for non-specific gastrointestinal tract infections and asthma.

— Breast milk protects against allergies and intolerances, and promotes correct jaw and teeth development.

— Breastfeeding is associated with higher intelligence quotient and school performance through adolescence.

— Breastfeeding reduces the risk for chronic diseases such as obesity, type 1 and 2 diabetes, heart disease, hypotension, hypercholesterolemia and childhood leukemia. 

World first as swine flu found in US cat

WASHINGTON, 5 Nov — Vets in the US state of Iowa said Wednesday that a household cat had tested positive for swine flu — the first known case in the world of the new pandemic strain spreading to the feline population.

The domestic shorthair, a 13-year-old cat named Celine, was tested when she fell ill 10 days after its owner returned from a trip to Canada. The owner’s diagnosis of symptoms consistent with swine flu was confirmed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The researchers said that the cat is more likely to have caught the virus from A(H1N1), the strain that is causing cases in humans, than from A(H1N2), the strain that infects pigs.

New areas of brain structure identified

NEW YORK, 5 Nov — A US led team of scientists says it’s found four areas of the precise structure of monkey and human brains that had been thought to be a single structure.

Led by scientists at New York University’s Langone Medical Center, researchers said they used a new approach called “testing state” functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging that produces a map of brain networks from only six minutes of data from a person at rest.

The authors said results of the brief fMRI sessions were consistent with well-established findings in monkeys examined microscopically.

The precise areas are located in the back of each brain hemisphere’s inner wall. The scientists said recent studies have shown the precuneus has important roles in higher-level cognitive functions, including episodic memory, reasoning, and consciousness.

‘Good’ cholesterol may lower a cancer risk

Baltimore, 5 Nov — Men with low cholesterol are less likely to get high-grade prostate cancer, a US researcher says.

The study, published in Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention, found a link between low cholesterol and decreased risk of high-grade prostate cancer among 5,586 men older than age 55. “High-grade prostate cancer is less common than prostate cancer overall, but it is a subset of prostate cancer that is more likely to progress,” study leader Elizabeth Platz of Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore said in a statement.

The researchers found men with a total cholesterol of less than 200 milligrams per deciliter had a 59 percent reduced risk of high-grade prostate cancer. No association was seen for prostate cancer overall or for prostate cancer with a lower Gleason score. The Gleason score, given to prostate cancer based upon its microscopic appearance, is part of a system used to help evaluate prognosis. Higher Gleason scores are more aggressive cancers and have a worse prognosis.

A fisherman holds an old carp in Geras, Lower Austria, on 4 Nov, 2009. Annual carp production in Waldviertel totals some 500 metric tonnes (500,000 kg) from some 400 agricultural farms, and is an essential line of business in the region, according to the agriculture ministry. — Internet

Newly discovered gene helps set body clock

The scientists, led by Ralf Stanewsky of Queen Mary University of London, said “clock cells” in the brain must be synchronized each day with cycles in the environment to prevent the clocks from running too fast or too slow.

The researchers demonstrated circadian clock cells in the brains of fruit flies that were separated from the body failed to synchronize with environmental temperature cycles. In contrast, the scientists found clock cells can readily synchronize with light-dark cycles even when the brain has no connection to the fly’s body.

The researchers said a gene called nocte is essential to the fly’s capacity to synchronize its body clock by means of temperature signals.

Stanewsky said the findings might help scientists “understand the human circadian clock and, in the future, perhaps contribute to developing treatments against the negative effects of sleep disorders and shift-work.” —Internet

Flu death toll rises to 86 in Ukraine

KIEV, 5 Nov — Ukraine’s deadly flu outbreak widened, as 86 people have died from flu and respiratory infections, the Health Ministry said on Wednesday.

Some 478,000 people were registered with national health authorities as suffering from the flu since mid-October, of whom 17 had confirmed cases of swine flu, Lyudmila Mukharska, Ukraine’s deputy chief health officer, told a news conference in Kiev.

The nationwide death count from flu-related illnesses since mid-October stood at 86, while 24,000 people have been hospitalized, Mukharska said.

She said the authorities had confirmed that four of the dead had died of the H1N1 virus. — Xinhua

Second A/H1N1 flu fatality confirmed in Finland

HEL SINI, 5 Nov — An eight-year-old girl died from A/H1N1 virus on Monday in Tornio, in northern Finland, Finland’s Ministry of Social Affairs and Health confirmed on Wednesday.

This is the second fatality resulting from the virus in Finland. A 25-year-old chronic woman infected with A/H1N1 virus died on Oct 24, indicating the first fatal case of A/H1N1 flu in Finland.

A total of 1,213 cases of A/H1N1 flu have been confirmed so far. However, the actual number of A/H1N1 flu patients is several times higher. —Xinhua
Sevilla draws at home but qualifies for last 16 of Champions League

**MADRID, 5 NOV—** A second half goal from Stuttgart midfielder Zdravko Kumanovich denied Sevilla a home win, but couldn’t stop the Spanish side from qualifying for the last 16 of the Champions League on Wednesday night.

The goal was a fair reward for the German side, that had lost 3-1 at home to Sevilla a fortnight ago, but which was able to react with a spirited second half after being under pressure in the first period.—*Xinhua*

Wenger salutes maturing Arsenal’s progress

**LONDON, 5 NOV—** Arsene Wenger believes Arsenal are maturing into a force to be reckoned with after the Gunners routed AZ Alkmaar 4-1 to move within touching distance of the Champions League knockout stages.

After being widely written off as Also-rans following a pre-season marred by the sales of Emmanuel Adebayor and Kolo Toure to Manchester City, Wenger’s side are beginning to hit their stride and look increasingly capable of ending their four-year trophy drought.—*Internet*

Ronaldo asks for new treatment on ankle injury

**MADRID, 5 NOV—** The ankle injury that has sidelined Cristiano Ronaldo for almost a month has not healed and the Real Madrid forward has to seek a second opinion for the treatment, the Primera Liga club said on Wednesday.

Ronaldo will seek a second opinion from a specialist in the Netherlands who treated an injury to the same ankle one year and a half ago, the club said on their website.

“Sunday is a massive game. Games against Chelsea always are,” Fletcher said. “It is not going to be make-or-break who wins the league by any means, although it is an important benchmark.”

**MADRID, 5 NOV—** Darren Fletcher believes Manchester United can claim an important psychological edge over Chelsea with a win in Sunday’s showdown between the Premier League’s top two.

But the Scotland midfielder, who returned to action in Tuesday’s 3-3 draw with CSKA Moscow after a month out with an ankle injury, insists the title race will remain wide open, regardless of the outcome at Stamford Bridge, where United have not won in seven years.

“We hoped to repeat our performance at Camp Nou and in general we were successful,” he said.

“We also created some chances against the world’s best club but unfortunately missed them.”

We will pull off great escape, insists Benitez

**LYON, 5 NOV—** Liverpool will overcome seemingly impossible odds and qualify for the knockout rounds of the Champions League insisted their increasingly embattled manager Rafael Benitez.

The Spaniard - who has overseen Liverpool’s worst run in over 50 years of just one win in their last eight matches - was speaking after seeing seven-time French champions Lyon steal a 1-1 draw in the last minute of their match.

The draw sent Lyon through to the last 16 - deservedly so given their three wins from the three previous matches - but left Liverpool in a decidedly parlous position on four points, five behind Italian side Fiorentina with two matches remaining.

Carles Puyol (L) of FC Barcelona fights for the ball with Goldenzard Karadeniz of Rubin Kazan during their UEFA Champions League group E game in Kazan. The match ended in a scoreless draw.—*Internet*

Defiant Kazan hold Barcelona in Champions League

**KAZAN, 5 NOV—** Russian champions Rubin Kazan put up a stunning defensive display here on Wednesday to hold Champions League holders Barcelona 0-0.

The draw means that should Kazan finish on the same amount of points as Barcelona in Group F for second place they would go through to the knockout stages instead of the Catalan giants on the head-to-head rule, as they beat Barcelona 2-1 in the Nou Camp.

Kazan and Barcelona are both on five points after four matches.

Dynamo Kiev, who are on four points, host runaway Serie A leaders Inter Milan, who have three points, later on Wednesday.

Kazan manager Kurban Berdyev said he was happy to gain four points in the two matches against Barcelona.

“We hoped to repeat our performance at Camp Nou and in general we were successful,” he said.

“We also created some chances against the world’s best club but unfortunately missed them.”

Federer crushes Seppi to cruise into third round

**BASEL, 5 NOV—** Roger Federer took just an hour to crush Andreas Seppi 6-3, 6-3 for a sixth straight victory against the Italian to reach the quarter-finals of the Swiss Indoors here on Wednesday.

The top seed, a home hero at the St Jakobshallle, was invincible as he reached the last eight, winning his 17th straight match in Basel and his 57th of the season.

The winner of the last three editions has not been defeated at the tournament since 2003 when he lost to Ivan Ljubicic, who went out here on Wednesday having come to the tournament in form having won the Lyon title last Sunday.

**BUCHAREST, 5 NOV—** Walter Smith says Rangers must win their two remaining games if they are to have any chance of playing in Europe in the New Year after watching his side concede a late equaliser to Unirea Urziceni in their Champions League Group G clash on Wednesday.

The Scottish champions’ hopes of making the last 16 lessened considerably when substitute Marius Onofras lashed in an unstoppable shot to pull the Romanians level with just two minutes left after Lee McCulloch’s drive had looked to have put Rangers on course for their first win of the competition this season.

“The goal was a fair reward for the German side, that had lost 3-1 at home to Sevilla a fortnight ago, but which was able to react with a spirited second half after being under pressure in the first period.”

The spaniard - who has overseen Liverpool’s worst run in over 50 years of just one win in their last eight matches - was speaking after seeing seven-time French champions Lyon steal a 1-1 draw in the last minute of their match.

The draw sent Lyon through to the last 16 - deservedly so given their three wins from the three previous matches - but left Liverpool in a decidedly parlous position on four points, five behind Italian side Fiorentina with two matches remaining.

However, Benitez, who was not helped by a lengthy injury list including talismanic captain Steven Gerrard and who played a clearly not 100percent fit Fernando Torres, was adamant that it would be Liverpool and not Fiorentina who reached the knockout round.

Despite conceding 13 goals in their last three matches against debutants Debrecen, the already qualified French team in their next round after Debrecen rout Fiorentina on brink of second round after Debrecen rout

**FLORENCE, 5 NOV—** Fiorentina romped to a 5-2 rout of Hungarians Debrecen on Wednesday to put them on the brink of qualification for the Champions League knock-out stages.

Following Liverpool’s 1-1 draw away to Lyon, La Viola need only beat the already qualified French team in their next game or draw away to Liverpool to ensure their passage to the next round.

Fiorentina’s defender captain Dario Dainelli celebrates after scoring against Debrecen during their Group E Champions League football match in Florence’s Artemio Franchi Stadium. Fiorentina won 5-2.—*Internet*
Jackson’s sons still linger on father’s death

BEIJING, 27 Oct—Michael Jackson’s sudden death has made the past few months full of grief for his children, though one of them is said to be coping better than the others, according to media reports Tuesday. La Toya Jackson, the singer’s sister, said that the 11-year-old girl Paris Michael was in a positive status to keep her father’s memory close, whereas her brothers found it tougher to move on.

In an interview with the Daily Mirror, she explained, “Paris thinks and talks about her father all the time. She’s doing very well, writes a lot and she wears his shirts every day. They still smell of him and it helps her feel close to him.”

However, it has been a much more difficult time for the pop singer’s oldest child Prince Michael. “Prince just doesn’t want to speak about it,” La Toya Jackson told the paper. “He won’t even watch the DVDs - he just walks right past the TV. It’s too soon, too touching. I do worry about him very much.”

The youngest Jackson sibling also needs concern. “And Blanket is just a very sad, shy little boy,” the children’s aunt said. “He cries - he really does cry. It’s so painful for him. No one can bring his daddy back and it hurts so much.”

Xinhua

WEATHER

Thursday, 5th November, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin, Rakhine States Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (5°C) below November average temperatures in Upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in Lower Sagaing and Bago Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above November average temperatures in Kachin and Mon States and Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperature were Loilern (5°C) and Haka (8°C). The note worthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Kawkthong (0.32) inch, and Mindaat (0.08) inch.

Maximum temperature on 4-11-2009 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 5-11-2009 was 64°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 5 -11-2009 was 50%. Total sun shine hours on 4-11-2009 was (0.6) hours approx. Rainfall on 5-11-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (111.06) inches at Mingaladon, (122.09) inches at Kaba-Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Northeast at (12:30) hours MST on 4-11-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 6th November 2009: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated light rain in Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Mon States and Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama off and along Mono and Taninthayi coasts. Surface wind speed in strong wind may reach 35 mph. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

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

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

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein on his departure for Japan to attend 1st Mekong-Japan Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Nov—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye saw off Prime Minister General Thein Sein, who left for Japan by special flight to attend 1st Mekong-Japan Summit to be held in Tokyo of Japan, at Nay Pyi Taw Airport at 10 a.m. today.

Together with Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye at the airport were members of SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Maung Oo, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, heads of departments, acting Chargé d’Affaires ai Mr Kazuyuki Takeuchi of embassy of Japan and officials.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha and departmental heads.

Earthquake Report
NAY PYI TAW, 5 Nov—A moderate earthquake of intensity (5.7) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar about (1700) miles northeast of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (16) hrs (07) min (46) sec M.S.T on 5th November, 2009.—MNA

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

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

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