Senior General Than Shwe, wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing pay homage to Sacred Tooth Relic in Kandy, Sri Lanka

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov — Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing visited the Sacred Tooth Relic Chamber in Kandy, Sri Lanka, on 13 November and paid homage to the tooth relic of the Buddha.

They offered day meal to members of the Sangha in Kandy and planted a mango tree to mark the goodwill visit.

The Myanmar goodwill delegation, accompanied by Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Myanmar Mr Newton Gunaratna and officials, went to the Sacred Tooth Relic Chamber in Kandy at 9 am. On way to the chamber, they were welcomed by school children waving miniature flags of the two countries, and portraits of heads of State of the two countries were erected along the road.

The goodwill delegation was conducted to the chamber in a procession by the Sri Lankan traditional music and dancing troops at the entrance to the chamber.

At the chamber, Senior General Than Shwe and party were welcomed by Mr. Pradeep Nilanga Dela Diyawada, the custodian of the chamber, and officials.

During the visit to the chamber, they paid homage to the sacred tooth relic of the Buddha.

Afterwards, Senior General Than Shwe and party attended a ceremony to open the Myanmar Pavilion of the International Buddhist Museum.

Ambassador of Myanmar to Sri Lanka U Ohn Thwin formally opened the Myanmar Pavilion.

Afterwards, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing donated a jade Buddha Image to Adviser of the International religion and culture to the president of Sri Lanka Rev. Dr Bhaddanta Bhodhagama Candima to be placed at the sacred Tooth Relic Temple.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing paid homage to the sacred tooth relic of the Buddha.

Afterwards, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing donated cash to the funds of the chamber. Mr. Pradeep Nilanga Dela Diyawada, the custodian of the chamber, received the donation.

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing planted a mango sapling in the compound of the chamber to mark the goodwill visit to Sri Lanka.—MNA

Sacred Tooth Relic is seen at Sacred Tooth Relic Chamber in Kandy, Sri Lanka.

MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing attend opening of Myanmar Pavilion at International Buddhist Museum in Sri Lanka. —MNA

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
* National reconsolidation
* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitu tion
* 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 stand ards of the entire nation
PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 17 November, 2009

Boost bilateral cooperation for deeper friendship

The relations between the Union of Myanmar and the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, based on the identity in practising Buddhism, dates back over 1,000 years. Friendly nations historically and culturally, they established diplomatic relations 60 years ago. Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaw Kyaw paid a goodwill visit to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on 12 November at the invitation of President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa.

During the goodwill visit, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe met President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Mr Mahinda Rajapaksa at the President’s House in Kandy on 12 November evening. At the meeting, Head of State Senior General Than Shwe said that the Union of Myanmar has been implementing the seven-step Road Map for democracy transition, that the State Constitution has been approved, that the elections will be held in 2010 and that the remaining steps will be implemented accordingly.

President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Mr Mahinda Rajapaksa, in his discussions, said that he thanked for detailed clarifications and that both countries would strive not only for promotion of trade but also for further cementing friendly relations. He continued to say that efforts were also being made to extend the private sectors of the two countries.

Nowadays, Asian countries are producing the goods at home and cooperation among them will boost the economy of the region. As Myanmar is the second largest producer of beans and pulses, the direct trade between the two countries will bring more benefits to both.

Heads of State of the two countries exchanged views on promotion of relationship between the two countries, all-round development of trade and economy, promotion of Buddhism-based tourist industry, cooperation of the two countries in the framework of BIMSTEC, and regional and international affairs.

The goodwill visit to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka by Head of State Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaw Kyaw has shown that there is deep friendship between the Union of Myanmar and the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and that there is a favourable environment for boosting cooperation in religious and cultural sectors.

Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye oversees An region development

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Chairman of Rakhtine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye looked into progress in building the rural-to-rural road in Longdon village tract in An township on 10 November. At village Post-Primary School, the commander cordially met with local people and viewed paddy harvest.

Construction Dy Minister looks into works of roads and bridges in Mandalay Div

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Deputy Minister for Construction U Tint Swe inspects Taw creek bridge (Railway) construction project.

Mandalay Mayor inspects farm No 1 in Yedaguntaung region of Patheingyi

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han inspected preparations made for poultry farming in Agriculture and Breeding Farm No 1, saplings of kitchen crops and progress of work in the integrated farming.

Respects paying ceremony to be held

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—The 18th anniver-
sary respects paying cer-
emony of Sweetaung Ba-
sic Education High School in Pyay District, Bago Di-
vision (West) will be held at the school on 28 No-
vember.

Retired teachers and old students have been invited to attend the ceremony. Those wishing to donate cash and kind may contact U Khin Maung Than (Awarat) oil mill and rice mill (Tel-053-55069) and U Khin Maung Lwin (Tel-053-55555).
Six Taleban militants, three Afghan troopers killed in E Afghanistan

KHOST (Afghanistan), 16 Nov — A gun battle between Afghan-Inte-
national forces and Taleban fighters left six insurgents dead in the
eastern Afghan province of Nuristan, provincial police chief said on
Sunday.
“Taleban attacked a military outpost of Af-
ghan and the NATO-led peacekeeping troops in
Nurgraham district Sat-
urday night, and troops returned fire, killing six
rebels including their commander Mullah Abdul Qadir on the
spot,” Mohammad Qasim Payman told Xinhua.
Mullah Qadir was re-
cently appointed as dis-
trict chief in Nurghram by the Taleban outfit, he
added. In a separate
incident, three Afghan
National Army soldiers
were killed and two others
wounded as their military
camp came under heavy
fire of militants in Ghazi
Abad district of Nuristan,
according to a statement
issued by the Afghan
Defence Ministry on Sun-
day.

The statement did not
mention the exact time
of the attack, only
saying “The attack took
place in the last 24
hours.”

Taleban militants,
whose regime was top-
pled by US-led coalition
forces in late 2001, have
yet to make comments.

Civilian killed, six injured in
Iraq’s Diyala violence

BAQUBA (Iraq), 16 Nov — A civilian was killed
and six people were
wounded in separate at-
tacks in Iraq’s volatile
province of Diyala north-
east of Baghdad, provin-
cial police source said
Sunday.
A roadside bomb
struck a minibus early in
the day near the al-Neda
village, some 150 km
northeast of Baghdad, kill-
ing a passenger and
wounding three others,
one of them in critical
condition, the source told
Xinhua on condition of
anonymity.

Iraqi security forces
searched the area and de-
tained several suspects
for interrogation, the
source said.
In a separate incident,
three policemen were
wounded when a road-
side bomb exploded near
their patrol in the town of
Jedidat al-Shatt, near the
provincial capital city of
Baquba, some 65 km
east of Baghdad, the
source added.

The blast destroyed a
police vehicle and sev-
eral nearby buildings and
civilian cars, he said.
Meanwhile, Iraqi se-
curity forces detained 13
suspected militants and
defused two roadside
bombs across the prov-
ince during the day, the
source said.

Roadside bomb
wounds two in
N Afghanistan

KINDIZ (Afghanis-
tan), 16 Nov — A road-
side bomb struck a vehi-
cle of a construction com-
pany in Kunduz Province
north of Afghanistan,
wounding two persons in-
cluding director of the
company, an official of the
compay said on Sunday.
“The Director of Kata
Khil Construction Com-
pany, Dad Gul Dilawar
and another sustained in-
juries as a mine planted
by militants struck his car
Saturday night,”
Mohammad Usman told
Xinhua.

Kata Khil Company is
an Afghan firm and has
been involved in recon-
struction activities in Af-
ghanistan over the past
several years.
Usman, however did
not point finger at any
particular groups or indivi-
duals but accused the en-
emies of peace a term used
against Taleban militants

BOMBING AT POLICE STATION IN PAKISTAN KILLS FOUR

PESHAWAR, 16 Nov — A pickup truck laden with
explosives blew up in front of a police station in
northwestern Pakistan on Monday, killing at least 4
people in an area that has become the focal point for
militant retaliation against a recent army offensive.

The massive explosion caused a wide swath of
destruction in the town of Badh Ber, severely
damaging the station and a nearby mosque and
completely destroying several houses and shops.

Suspected militants have killed more than 300
civilians and security personnel in the last month
in an attempt to weaken the country’s resolve to con-
tinue the military operation in the tribal area of South
Waziristan, where al-Qaeda and Taleban leaders are
believed to be hiding.

“We have to continue this war against terrorists
and have to keep our nerves,” said Mian Itfikhar
Hussain, the information minister for North West
Frontier Province where Badh Ber is located.
Police opened fire on the pickup truck as it ap-
proached a checkpoint in front of the police station,
but the driver was able to detonate his explosives,
said Liaqat Ali Khan, the senior police chief in the
main northwestern city of Peshawar.

Gunmen in army uniforms kill 12 Iraqi villagers

BAQUBA, 16 Nov — Gunmen wearing military uniforms shot dead 12 men in a
pre-dawn attack at a village near Baghdad on Monday, villagers and police said.

The attack took place in the mainly Sunni village of Zauba, west of Baghdad,
which at the height of the fighting in Iraq was viewed as a hotbed of support for
Sunni militants. One of those killed was affiliated with the main Sunni Arab politi-
cal party, the Iraqi Islamic Party, police said.

The violence kicked off by the 2003 US invasion has fallen off over the past 18
months but attacks — including shootings and kidnappings — are still common.
Russia seeks inspiration from high-tech Singapore

SINGAPORE, 16 Nov — President Dmitry Medvedev on Monday made the first ever official visit by a Russian leader to Singapore to forge stronger ties with the high-tech island as he seeks to modernize Russia’s economy.

The Russian delegation includes business chiefs, such as Russia’s former richest man and owner of aluminum giant UC Rusal Oleg Deripaska and Alexander Medvedev, the deputy chairman of Gazprom, the world’s biggest gas firm.

Russia — which joined the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in 1998 — has in recent years sought to bolster its relationship with states such as Singapore to diversify its trade base.

With Medvedev seeking to limit Russia’s dangerously high dependence on oil exports and transform it into an innovative, high-tech economy, relations with Singapore have taken on a new importance.

Medvedev met late Sunday with Singapore President SR Nathan after the country hosted the APEC summit, telling him “that the system of economic and technical education in your country is of great interest for us.”

The Russian president said agreements were reached at the talks on long-term investment, financial projects and exchange of technologies, Russian official media reported.

Japanese GDP rises real 4.8% in 3rd quarter

Tokyo, 16 Nov — Japanese gross domestic product (GDP) rises 4.8 percent in the July-September quarter in real terms for the second consecutive quarter of expansion, confirming economic recovery after the global financial crisis, the government said on Monday.

The economic rise comes after a 1.2 percent growth from the April-June quarter, the Cabinet Office said in a preliminary report.

In the latest quarter, consumer spending — which makes up about 60 percent of Japanese GDP — increased a real 0.7 percent from the previous quarter.

Corporate capital spending rose 1.6 percent while public investment fell 1.2 percent.

Domestic demand, made up of these components among others, sent GDP up 0.8 percentage point from the previous three months. Demand from overseas drove GDP up 0.4 point. GDP is the total value of goods and services produced domestically. Real GDP figures are adjusted for price and seasonal variations.

Despite the GDP growth in real terms, nominal GDP fell an annualized 0.3 percent in the reporting period, which corresponds to a 0.1 percent contraction from the previous quarter.

Euro-Asia Economic Forum opens in NW China, tackling financial crisis

XI’AN, 16 Nov — The 2009 Euro-Asia Economic Forum opened on Monday in Xi’an, northwest China’s Shaanxi Province, with a theme of “Working Together to Facilitate Economic Recovery.”

The two-day forum attracted about 930 delegates from more than 60 countries and regions including members and observers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and the United Nations organizations.

Delegates from the world Top 500 companies also attended the forum.

They will discuss how to fight the global economic downturn through the cooperation in finance, energy, customs and business as well as education, said Zhang Deguang, Secretary-General of the forum.

The biennial Euro-Asia Economic Forum was launched in Xi’an in 2005.

The city was named the permanent venue of the forum in April 2007.
China approves border development zone to boost cooperation in NE Asia

The Chinese government has approved a border development zone in the Tumen River Delta to boost the cross-border cooperation in the northeastern Asian region, the provincial government of Jilin announced on Monday.

The information office of the government said the pilot zone covering 73,000 square km involved the cities of Changchun and Jilin as well as the Tumen River area. Han Changqun, governor of Jilin, said the Changchun-Jilin-Tumen-pilot zone was China’s first border development zone. It is expected to push forward cross-border cooperation in the Tumen River Delta. The delta, a 516-kilometer-long river straddling the borders of China, Russia and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), was set up as an economic development zone in 1991 by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

In 1995, five countries — China, Russia, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), the Republic of Korea (ROK) and Mongolia — ratified the agreement on the Establishment of the Cooperation Commission for the Tumen River Economic Development Area. Japan participated in the programme as an observer.

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Israeli president starts visit to Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 16 Nov—Israeli President Shimon Peres arrived in Argentina, home to Latin America’s biggest Jewish community, on Sunday for a two-day visit.

He was met at the airport by Argentine Foreign Minister Jorge Taiana and was scheduled to meet Argentine President Cristina Kirchner on Monday. Peres’ visit came as the Palestinian authority said it would request UN recognition of an independent Palestine state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Israel has warned the Palestinians against taking such “unilateral action.”

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned on Sunday at a peace forum in Jerusalem that his country would respond with its own unilateral moves to any unilateral steps by the Palestinians.

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Cambodian AIDS orphans have good plans for future

PHNOM PENH, 16 Nov—They are a hidden population, living with HIV/AIDS at a very young age. What we do know is that they are very vulnerable. It is this state of being hidden that puts AIDS orphans at special risk during their lifetime.

But those living with HIV in Cambodia are lucky. They live in the National Borey for Infants and Children, a state-run orphanage located in the suburb of the capital city Phnom Penh, which is supported by the government and humanitarian agencies.

“The centre accommodates more than 100 orphans, among them 27 are living with HIV, and Sei La is one of them,” Sani, a teacher at the centre, told Xinhua while pointing at the boy who was orphaned at an early age when his parents died of AIDS.

Sei La is a typical Khmer boy with brown skin. He looks happy and healthy. He said he had just returned from school. “How old are you, Sei La? Do you know China?” we asked.

“I am 15 years old now. I know China. It’s a big country with a lot of people,” Sei La answered with a shy smile. “I am happy here. I have friends here and the teachers treat us like mothers. I study in the Khmer language school in the morning, and in the afternoon I go to English school,” he continued.

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HK to issue special stamps for East Asian Games

HONG KONG, 16 Nov—Hong Kong Post Monday announced that a set of stamps based on the theme of “Hong Kong 2009 East Asian Games” would be released for sale with associated philatelic products on 5 Dec.

The 5th East Asian Games, slated to open on 5 Dec, 2009, will be the first major international sports Games hosted by Hong Kong.

The stamps are to commemorate this event as an exciting milestone in Hong Kong’s sporting history, said Hong Kong Post Monday on the local government website.

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All Items from Xinhua News Agency

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Two workers walk away after inspecting the top of the external tank on the space shuttle Atlantis at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

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Turkey, Egypt to jointly hold naval exercise

ANKARA, 16 Nov—Turkish and Egyptian naval forces will conduct a military exercise in the eastern Mediterranean Sea next week, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

The Friendship Sea 2009 Turkish-Egypt Bilateral Military Exercise, due from 16 to 21 Nov, aims to boost cooperation between the two countries’ naval forces, the agency said, citing a General Staff statement.

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Senior General Than Shwe and wife visit
Anuratthapura Archaeological Region in Sri Lanka

Senior General Than Shwe and Daw Kyaing Kyaing offer flowers and lights to the reclining Buddha Image at Maha Ceti Pagoda. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing visit Anuratthapura Archaeological Region in Sri Lanka on 14 November morning. The Senior General and entourage arrived at Anuratthapura Archaeological Region in the afternoon. Together with the governor of North Central Province, and the Chief Minister of North Central Province and wife, the Senior General and party visited Maha Ceti Monastery and paid homage to Ven. Pallengama Hemaratana. Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offered a jade Buddha image, eight requisites and alms to the monk. Next, they offered robes and alms to members of the Sangha. The Senior General offered robes and alms to the presiding monk. Presiding Monk Ven. Pallengama Siriniwasa presented a Bodhi sapling and a Buddha image to Minister of North Central Province and official.

Maha Ceti Pagoda in Anuratthapura Archaeological Region in Sri Lanka. — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing pay homage to Maha Bodhi Tree in Sri Lanka.— MNA

Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and party, accompanied by Sri Lankan Minister of Culture Mr Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena and wife, Sri Lankan Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Newton Gunaratn and wife, left Kandy in a motorcade for Anurathapura Archaeological Region in the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on 14 November morning. The Senior General and entourage arrived at Anuratthapura Archaeological Region in the afternoon. Together with the governor of North Central Province, and the Chief Minister of North Central Province and wife, the Senior General and party visited Maha Ceti Monastery and paid homage to Ven. Pallengama Hemaratana. Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing offered a jade Buddha image, eight requisites and alms to the monk. Next, they offered robes and alms to members of the Sangha. The Senior General offered robes and alms to the presiding monk. Presiding Monk Ven. Pallengama Siriniwasa presented a Bodhi sapling and a Buddha image to Minister of North Central Province and official.

Maha Ceti Pagoda in Anuratthapura Archaeological Region in Sri Lanka. — MNA

Next, the Senior General and party visited Maha Bodhi Tree and offered flowers to it. The Senior General and wife offered Shwekya robes and paid homage to it. The Senior General and entourage were seen off at Anuratthapura Archaeological Region Airport by the governor of North Central Province, and the Chief Minister of North Central Province and official. They arrived at Colombo at 5.30 pm and at Taj Samudra Colombo Hotel in Colombo.— MNA
NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, a member of the Myanmar goodwill delegation led by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing, donated robes, provisions and offertories to members of the Sangha at Winaya Linkara Rama Myanmar Monastery in Kandy, Sri Lanka, on 13 November.

During the visit to the monastery, the religious minister presented robes, provisions and offertories donated by Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing to Rev. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Acinna of the monastery and five Myanmar Buddhist monks studying at Sri Lanka International Buddhist University.

The minister also visited the construction site of new building in the compound of the monastery.

On 13 November, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung attended a ceremony to sign Memorandum of Understanding between the Sacred Shwedagon Pagoda of the Union of Myanmar and the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic of Sri Lanka.

Myanmar Ambassador U Ohn Thwin and Mr Pradeep Nilanga Dela Diyawada sign MoU between Shwedagon Pagoda of the Union of Myanmar and the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic of Sri Lanka.—MNA

Minister donates robes, provisions to Buddhist monks at Myanmar monastery in Kandy, Sri Lanka
NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—The goodwill delegation headed by Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing left Colombo for Nay Pyi Taw by special aircraft on 15 November morning after paying a goodwill visit to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka at the invitation of President Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa.

Before departure from Colombo, respects were paid to Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing by Ambassador of the Union of Myanmar to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka U. Ohn Thwin, wife Daw San San Nwe, embassy staff and their families at 8 am in the lounge of Taj Samudra Colombo Hotel. Then, Senior General Than Shwe gave a detailed clarification about the measures being taken for all-round development, including the political, economic, transport, agriculture, industry, energy and electric power sectors.

Afterwards, the Senior General gave guidance that the embassy staff were to strive for strengthening mutual friendship, promotion of bilateral trade and increased bilateral cooperation in the international arena and offered gifts to the ambassador and wife. Senior General Than Shwe and the goodwill delegation arrived at the special lounge of Bandaranaike International Airport at 10 am to leave Colombo for Nay Pyi Taw.

At the airport, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing cordially greeted Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Mr. Ratanasiri Wickremesinghe, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Rohitha Bogollagama, Minister of Culture Hon. Mr. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana and wife, Sri Lankan Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Newton Gunaratne and wife, high-ranking officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Sri Lanka U. Ohn Thwin and wife and embassy staff and families.

The goodwill delegation headed by Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing arrived back at Nay Pyi Taw in the evening.
Central Province Governor, Chief Minister of Central Province of Sri Lanka host dinner in honour of Senior General Than Shwe and wife

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Central Province Governor Mr Tikiri Kobbeakaduwa of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and Chief Minister of Central Province hosted a dinner in honour of Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyawing Kyawing at Earl’s Regency Hotel in Kandy, Sri Lanka, on 13 November evening.

On arrival at Earl’s Regency Hotel at 7.45 pm, Senior General Than Shwe and wife were welcomed and greeted by the Central Province Governor and Chief Minister of Central Province.

Together with the Senior General and wife at the dinner were member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann and wife, Secretary 1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thida Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife, SPDC member Lt-Gen Tin Aye, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence and their wives, ministers, deputy ministers, the Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore and wife and staff, deputy ministers, the Myanmar Ambassador to Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and wife and staff families to provide assistance to Myanmar in line with Myanmar traditional customs.

After the luncheon, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyawing Kyawing exchanged gifts with Governor Mr Karunarathne Dialgane and wife and North Central Province Chief Minister Mr Berty Premalal Dissanayake and wife who are working in Singapore and presented gifts to them.

Present at the dinner were members of the SPDC General Thura Shwe Mann and wife, Secretary 1 of the SPDC General Thida Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and wife, member of the SPDC Lt-Gen Tin Aye, senior military officers and their wives, ministers, deputy ministers, the Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore and wife and staff families.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyawing Kyawing exchanged gifts with Governor Mr Karunarathne Dialgane, Chief Minister Mr Berty Premalal Dissanayake and their wives posed for a documentary photo.

Aafter the luncheon, Senior General Than Shwe and wife Daw Kyawing Kyawing together with Governor Mr Karunarathne Dialgane, Chief Minister Mr Berty Premalal Dissanayake and their wives.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister paid their respects to the Prime Minister and gave necessary instructions to them at 7 pm yesterday.

PM General Thein Sein meets families of Myanmar Embassy in Singapore

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Prime Minister General Thein Sein of the Union of Myanmar arriving in Singapore met with staff and their families of Myanmar Embassy to Singapore and gave necessary instructions to them at 7 pm yesterday.

Myanmar Ambassador U Win Myint and wife and staff families welcomed Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and departmental heads upon their arrival at the embassy.

The Prime Minister was welcomed by Prime Minister General Thein Sein, accompanied by Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Myint and departmental heads upon their arrival at the embassy.

Next, the Myanmar ambassador and wife, embassy staff and their families paid their respects to the Prime Minister in line with Myanmar traditional customs.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister made clarification on prevailing conditions in economic and social fields and progress of international relation. In addition, he gave instructions to embassy staff to provide assistance to Myanmar people who are working in Singapore and presented gifts to them.

Next, the Myanmar ambassador hosted dinner to the Prime Minister and party.
Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends 1st ASEAN-US Leaders Meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein attended the 1st ASEAN-US Leaders Meeting at the Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore, the Republic of Singapore at 3.20 pm yesterday.

Also present at the meeting were King of Brunei Darussalam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muzzaddin Waddaulah, Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Indonesian President Dr. H. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Laotian Prime Minister Mr. Bouasone Bounphavanh, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Sri Mohd Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdul 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, US President Barak Obama, and ASEAN Secretary-General Dr. Surin Pitsuwan.

On arrival at the hotel at 3 pm, the Heads of State/Government from ASEAN countries, the US president, and the US Secretary of State were welcomed by the Singaporean Prime Minister.

Before the meeting, they posed for a group photo.

At the meeting, Singaporean Prime Minister Mr. Lee Hsien Loong extended greetings.

Alternate Chairman of ASEAN Thai Prime Minister Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva delivered an introductory speech.

ASEAN-US Dialogue Coordinator Philippine President Madam Gloria Macapagal Arroyo delivered a speech. The Heads of State/Government from ASEAN countries, the US president, and the US Secretary of State held talks about matters on ASEAN-US mutual interest. The meeting ended at 5.30 pm.

After the meeting, Prime Minister General Thein Sein and party left the Shangri-La Hotel and arrived back at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel.— MNA

Prime Minister General Thein Sein arrives in Singapore

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein, accompanied by Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Mynint and departmental heads, left Myanmar by air on 14 November to attend the First ASEAN-US Leaders Meeting to be held in Singapore, the Republic of Singapore and arrived at Changi International Airport at 9.15 pm.

The Prime Minister and party were welcomed at the airport by Singaporean Transport Minister Mr Raymond Lin Siang Keat and officials, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Win Mynint and officials of the embassy.

Then, the Prime Minister and party went to Mandarin Oriental Hotel where they would stay. The staff of Myanmar Embassy to Singapore welcomed and presented bouquets to the Prime Minister and party.— MNA
Clash along Saudi-Yemen border kills two
RIYADH, 16 Nov — Two Saudi soldiers were killed and five were wounded in a rebel attack at the Saudi-Yemen border, the Pan-Arab daily Asharq Al-Awsat reported.

The London-based newspaper said medical sources in Jizan’s Samah hospital near the border reported receiving the bodies of two soldiers and admitting five wounded, including one with serious injuries. Five soldiers and four civilians have been killed since Nov 3. Saudi naval forces are increasing efforts to contain the rebels, Al Hayat reported. The Saudi navy is patrolling Yemen’s northwest Red Sea coast and has seized five ships ferrying rebel infiltrators, the report said.

Iran and the United State have become more publicly involved in the conflict. A report in The National cites remarks by Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Motaki criticizing recent Saudi attacks on rebel positions and offering to “help restore security” in Yemen as evidence to Arab leaders of claims of Iran’s expansionist foreign policy goals.

The United States reached a military cooperation agreement Yemeni Chief of General Staff Ahmad Ali, Al Ashwal said, aimed at ending sea piracy off Yemen’s coast. The training and security exchange agreement was reached after two days of talks in Yemen’s capital Sana’a. Yemen’s official Saba news agency reported.

Venezuela’s president goes cloud bombing to ease drought
CARACAS, 16 Nov — Venezuela’s president Hugo Chavez has said he will join a team of Cuban scientists on flights to “bomb clouds” to create rain amid a severe drought that has aroused public anger due to water and electricity rationing.

Chavez, who has asked Venezuelans to take three-minute showers to save water, said the Cubans had arrived in Venezuela and were preparing to fly specially equipped aircraft above the Orinoco river.

“I’m going in a plane; any cloud that crosses me, I’ll zap it so that it rains,” Chavez said at a ceremony late on Saturday with family members of five Cubans convicted of spying in the United States.

Many countries have programmes aimed at altering weather patterns, commonly known as cloud seeding, although the effectiveness of such techniques is disputed.

Firing silver iodine at clouds is one common method. China uses rockets loaded with the chemical to spur rain in arid regions. Chavez did not say what technology the Cubans will use. — Internet

Sex infections still growing in US, says CDC
WASHINGTON, 16 Nov — American squeamishness about talking about sex has helped keep common sexually transmitted infections far too common, especially among vulnerable teens, US researchers reported on Monday.

Latest statistics on chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis show the three highly treatable infections continue to spread in the United States.

“Chlamydia and gonorrhea are stable at unacceptable high levels and syphilis is resurgent after almost being eliminated,” said John Douglas, director of the division of sexually transmitted diseases at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“We have among the highest rates of STDs of any developed country in the world,” Douglas added in a telephone interview. — Internet

Assailant shoots child through door
WASHINGTON, 16 Nov — A 9-year-old child was killed inside his Washington apartment when an assailant fired a bullet through the front door, authorities said.

The boy and his family hurried into their home to escape a robbery attempt, The Washington Post reported on Sunday. The assailant fired just before 10 pm EST Saturday, striking the child.

Police arrived before paramedics and attempted, but failed, to revive the fatally wounded boy, the Post said.

Three people were questioned but no arrests have been announced. Jim Graham, a member of the Washington City Council, visited the scene.

“Here’s a boy in the safety of his own home,” but he was killed anyway, Graham said.

Gas poisoning kills five in NW Turkey
ANKARA, 16 Nov — Five people were found dead from carbon monoxide poisoning in northwest Turkey’s Istanbul city Sunday, Turkish media reported.

A woman, her daughter and three grandchildren were found dead Sunday morning in their house in Umraniye district of Istanbul, the private NTV channel reported. The deaths were caused by gas from the coal-burning stove, which was used for heating in the winter, the TV channel said. — Xinhua

A woman in costume talks on her mobile phone during the monthly Seoul Comic World event in Seoul on 15 Nov, 2009. — Xinhua

A composite picture shows Lee Soo-hyun (L), 16, and Cho Hye-won, 16, posing before and after they dress up as a character from the Japanese animation ‘Chobits’ (top), at the monthly Seoul Comic World event in Seoul on 15 Nov, 2009. — Xinhua

Prime Minister General Thein Sein arrives back Nay Pyi Taw
NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov — After attending the 1st ASEAN-US Leaders Meeting at Singapore, the Republic of Singapore, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar General Thein Sein, accompanied by Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint, and departmental heads, left the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in a motorcade and arrived at Changi International Airport at 7 am today.

He said goodbye to the Singaporean Minister of Human Resource Development, Head of the Protocol Department Lim Cheng Ho, Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Win Myint and embassy staff, who saw him off at the airport.

The Prime Minister and entourage arrived back at Nay Pyi Taw via Yangon. — MNA

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Rolls-Royce wins two billion dollars in orders
LONDON, 16 Nov — British plane engine maker Rolls-Royce has said it had secured orders worth two billion dollars ($1.33 billion euros) from Air China and Ethiopian Airlines. — Internet

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A technician checks a Rolls Royce jet engine at Jakarta airport. British plane engine maker Rolls-Royce has said it had secured orders worth two billion dollars ($1.33 billion euros) from Air China and Ethiopian Airlines. — Internet

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Internet
Italy arrests mafia boss, on run for 15 years

PALERMO, 16 Nov—Italian police arrested a top Sicilian mafia boss on Sunday who had been a fugitive for more than 15 years, dealing what a minister said was a major blow to the crime syndicate.

Domenico Raccuglia, considered the most prominent member of the Cosa Nostra after the most wanted fugitive, Matteo Messina Denaro, has been convicted in absentia to three life sentences for murder and other Mafia crimes.

Interior Minister Roberto Maroni said Raccuglia’s arrest was “one of the strongest blows inflicted on Mafia organisations in recent years because he was, effectively, the number two of Cosa Nostra.”

Police said Raccuglia had been seized in a house near Trapani, in the western tip of Sicily, and has been taken to the island’s capital, Palermo. He was considered the head of important Mafia clans operating in and between the two cities. Although his wife was kept under police surveillance, he managed to father a second child while he was on the run.—Internet

Hawaii’s famed white sandy beaches are shrinking

LOUIS ANGELES, 16 Nov — The mere thought of loved ones can help reduce pain, a new study suggests.

This underscores the importance of social relationships and staying socially connected, according to the study conducted by researchers at the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA).

“All the women were just looking at pictures of their partners, they actually reported less pain to the heat stimuli than when they were looking at pictures of an object or pictures of a stranger,” said study co-author Naomi Eisenberger, assistant professor of psychology and director of UCLA’s Social and Affective Neuroscience Laboratory.

“The mere reminder of one’s partner through a simple photograph was capable of reducing pain.”

Thinking of loved ones helps reduce pain

KALEA, 16 Nov — Jenn Boneca remembers when the white sandy beach near her boat ramp in her hometown was wide enough for people to build sand castles. “It really used to be a beautiful beach,” she said the 35-year-old mother of two. “And now when you look at it, it’s gone.”

That’s happening to portions of the beach in Kailua — a sunny coastal suburb of Honolulu where President Barack Obama spent his last two family vacations in the islands — is being repeated around the Hawaiian Islands.

Geologists say more than 70 percent of Kauai’s beaches are eroding while Oahu has lost a quarter of its sandy shoreline. They warn the problem is only likely to get significantly worse in coming decades as global warming causes sea levels to rise more rapidly.

“It will probably have occurred to a scale that we will have only been able to save a few places and maintain beaches, and the rest are kind of a write-off,” said Dolan Eversole, a coastal geologist with the University of Hawaii’s Sea Grant programme.

Ever more Mexican children learn Chinese

MEXICO CITY, 16 Nov — Ever more Mexican children are learning Chinese as the third language, after most Mexicans’ mother tongue Spanish and English, pushed by parents who believe it will be the language of the future.

Some senior Mexicans often say something “esta en Chino” (is in Chinese), meaning that it is hard to understand. But things are different nowadays — more and more Mexicans are able to understand, even write the “mysterious oriental language.”

Abel Martinez, an eight-year-old boy, studies at Huaxia Chinese Culture Institute (ICCH), saying that he began to learn Chinese at age four and that he liked Chinese martial arts.

During a recent interview with Xinhua, Abel wrote many Chinese words with good handwriting. His sister, Samantha Martinez, a girl with beautiful eyes, also studies Chinese with her brother.

Supported by native Chinese teachers, many Mexican children cannot only learn the language and calligraphy, but also China’s history and customs in an enjoyable way. They also take part in competitions and festivals associated with Chinese traditional culture.

The original idea of the ICCH, which works with China’s embassy in Mexico, was to teach overseas Chinese children, but now 90 percent of the students are Mexicans, from all age groups.

A fever for the Chinese culture — covering fine arts, foods, martial arts and its language — began a decade ago in Mexico.—Xinhua

Thinking of loved ones helps reduce pain

Photo taken on 15 Nov, 2009 shows a panorama of Fuxi Village with lots of ancient architectures that date to the Ming and Qing Dynasties in Xuchang County, southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Fuxi village is one of dozens of ancient townships on the Xiaohe Road, connecting the Yangtze River in central China and Pearl River delta area.—Xinhua

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World leaders, officials meet to fight against hunger

ROME, 16 Nov — World leaders and officials gathered in Rome Monday for a three-day summit on food security, aiming to relieve over 1 billion people in the world from hunger.

“The silent hunger crisis, affecting one sixth of all of humanity, poses a serious risk for world peace and security. We urgently need to forge a broad consensus on the total and rapid eradication of hunger in the world,” Jacques Diouf, Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), said on the eve of the summit.

The Rome-based FAO, which organized the event, warned the global food insecurity situation has worsened and continues to represent a serious threat for humanity. With food prices remaining stubbornly high in developing countries, the number of people suffering from hunger has been growing relentlessly in recent years, while the global economic crisis is aggravating the situation by affecting jobs and deepening poverty.—Xinhua

Total population of six Gulf countries to reach 53 mln by 2020

DOHA, 16 Nov — The total population of the six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is expected to increase by one-third to 53 million by 2020, a report said here on Sunday.

The rising population coupled with relative low age of youth would pose a big challenge to the six Gulf states, the report entitled “The GCC in 2020, The Gulf and its People” said.

The structure of workforce is undergoing changes, with an increasing number of educated women eager to start careers, said the report, released by the Economist Intelligence Unit and sponsored by Qatar Finance Center Authority.

However, the dependence on expatriate laborers is likely to continue in the long term, as the construction of high-rise buildings and infrastructure requires large amount of staff.—Internet

Chavez ‘won’t accept mediation’ in tensions with Colombia

CARACAS, 16 Nov — President Hugo Chavez says he won’t accept international mediation efforts aimed at easing tensions between Venezuela and Colombia.

Long-standing tensions between the South American neighbors have worsened in recent months over Colombia’s agreement to give the United States military more access to its bases — a deal that Chavez sees as a threat to Venezuela.

US and Colombian officials say the agreement is necessary to help fight drug trafficking and rebels who benefit from the illegal trade.

Chavez claims the deal could allow the US soldiers to launch a military offensive against Venezuela. Brazil offered last week to mediate between Caracas and Bogota.Chavez said Sunday, “We don’t accept mediation.”—Internet

Climate change killing sea turtles

Climate change threatens the extinction of leatherback sea turtles that have called the Pacific Ocean home for 150 million years, scientists said. Warmer temperatures and rising seas are further reducing turtle populations already devastated by beach development, net fishing and restaurants that consider turtle eggs a delicacy.

Just 32 leatherbacks were seen digging nests last year on a beach at Leatherback Sea Turtle National Park, Playa Grande, Costa Rica, where the park’s turtle museum was abandoned three years ago and now is surrounded by weeds.

“We do not promote this as a turtle tourism destination anymore because we realize there are far too few turtles to please,” Alvaro Fonseca, a park攻略, told The New York Times in a story published.

Moving eggs to hatcheries and artificially cooling nests with shade or irrigation may only help temporarily since sea turtles feed on reefs, which are dying in warmer, more acidic seas, wildlife experts said.
S P O R T S

At long last, Michelle Wie gets 1st LPGA Tour win
GUADALAJARA, 16 Nov—Michelle Wie, LPGA Tour champion. Imagine that.

Wie ended her long wait by tapping in a birdie putt Sunday at the Lorena Ochoa Invitational, and her first tour title may finally quiet the skeptics who second-guessed her career decisions and questioned the fuss over a player without a pro victory.

"Whoops. Whoops. Whoops. Whoops. Never thought this would feel this great!!" Wie posted on her Twitter account. The 20-year-old closed with a 3-under 69 for a two-stroke victory over Paula Creamer. Wie finished it off in style, hitting a greenside bunker shot within a foot on the final hole.

When it was over, it was time for a celebration that was a decade in the making. Wie pulled the ball from the 18th hole, looked up to the sky, let out a big sigh of relief, bounced up and down and pumped her right fist.

After all the near misses, after all the expectations, she was a winner. "It’s definitely off my back," Wie said. "I think that hopefully life will be a lot better, but I still have a lot of work to do."—Internet

Michelle Wie, from the United States, holds her trophy after winning the Lorena Ochoa Invitational LPGA golf tournament in Guadalajara, Mexico, on 15 Nov, 2009. —INTERNET

Crash victim Cudicini to make full recovery, say Spurs
LONDON, 16 Nov—Tottenham say goalkeeper Carlo Cudicini is expected to make a full recovery after surgery on injuries he suffered in an horrific motorbike crash.
The 36-year-old Italian hit a car on Thursday while driving through east London, fracturing his wrist and damaging his pelvis.

The former Chelsea star was operated on at a private hospital on Friday and his north London club believe he is on course for a full recovery from an accident initially described as "life-changing" by ambulance staff.

Tottenham assistant manager Kevin Bond said on Sunday: "It’s going to take some time, he will be on crutches for a period of time and no doubt he’ll be in hospital for a good few days yet," Bond told Sky Sports News.—INTERNET

Djokovic edges Monfils to win Paris thriller
PARIS, 16 Nov—Novak Djokovic of Serbia secured back-to-back ATP titles on Sunday by edging past battling Frenchman Gael Monfils 6-2, 5-7, 7-6 (7/5) in a thrilling Paris Masters final.

The win was the first for Djokovic in the Masters Series this year following four runner-up finishes and it will send him into the season-ending ATP Tour World Finals in London from November 22-29 as the favourite for many.

But it remains to be seen just how much his efforts here this week, and throughout the year, have taken out of him after he completed a tour-leading 94th match of the season.—INTERNET

Serbian Novak Djokovic celebrates with his trophy after the end of his Paris Masters ATP tournament final tennis match against French Gael Monfils at the "Palais Omnisports de Paris Bercy" in Paris. Djokovic won 6-2, 5-7, 7-6.—INTERNET

Maradona banned two months
GENEVA, 16 Nov—Argentina coach Diego Maradona was banned for two months and fined more than 24,000 US dollars by FIFA on Sunday for a foul-mouthed rant last month.

Maradona was sanctioned after his outburst in an interview following his team beat Uruguay 1-0 to secure their berth in the 2010 South Africa World Cup in the last game of an 18-match South American qualifying campaign.

"The FIFA disciplinary committee...decided today to impose a two-month ban on taking part in any football related activity and a 25,000 CHF (about 24,630 dollars) fine on the head coach of Argentina Diego Maradona," a FIFA statement said.

Soccer’s world governing body FIFA said the ban would start immediately and run until 15 Jan.

Maradona was appointed Argentina coach 13 months ago.

Argentina's national soccer coach Diego Maradona reacts during their friendly soccer match against Spain at the Vicente Calderon stadium in Madrid, on 14 Nov, 2009. —Xinhua

Biedermann seals second world record in Berlin
BERLIN, 16 Nov—German swimmer Paul Biedermann earned his second world record at the short course World Cup on Sunday in Berlin.

The 23-year-old Biedermann finished in one minute and 39.37 seconds to improve his own 200m freestyle record of 1:39.46 set on 200m freestyle, slashing off 1.46 seconds.

With the mark, he became the first swimmer to stay beyond the 100-second mark.

American star Phelps, who won eight gold medals at the Beijing Olympics, resigned the duel over 200m freestyle against Biedermann.

Phelps had no chances over 200-meter medley against South African swimmer Darian Townsend, who swam the world record in one minute and 55.52 seconds.

Townsend cut the record 1/100 seconds under the old mark set by American Ryan Lochte in April 2008.

Biedermann sealed his 200m freestyle world record in Berlin with the mark, saving up to 1.46 seconds.

Chinese swimmer Liu Zige equalized her old record over 200-meter butterfly in two minutes and 00.78 seconds. She was 1.72 seconds faster than last Wednesday in Stockholm.

China wins 3,000m relay at short track speedskating World Cup
WASHINGTON, 16 Nov—China edged their arch-rivals South Korea to take the women’s 3,000 meters relay title with a time of 6 minutes and 10.785 seconds at the short track World Cup speedskating final in Marquette, US on Sunday.

South Korea took second with just 0.001 second behind China, followed by Canada with a time of 4:10.825. —Xinhua

China's national women's short track speedskating team celebrates winning the World Cup final in Marquette, Wisconsin, on Sunday. —Xinhua

Ligament damage sidelines Arsenal star Van Persie
LONDON, 16 Nov—Arsenal’s Premier League title hopes suffered a setback on Sunday after striker Robin van Persie damaged ankle ligaments during the Netherlands’ 0-0 friendly draw with Italy.

The 26-year-old was stretched off the pitch after being tackled by Italian defender Giorgio Chiellini 14 minutes into Saturday’s game at Pescara and now faces a spell on the sidelines.

He told Dutch TV station NOS that he could miss around six weeks of action.”Van Persie has a partially ruptured ligament," a Dutch Football Association (KNVB) official told the BBC on Sunday.

"It’s a serious injury. It’s impossible to put an exact time-frame on it because some players heal more quickly than others. It’s not a short-term injury."Earlier, Dutch coach Bert van Marwijk said he believed the player had torn ligaments.

Tottenham say goalkeeper Carlo Cudicini, pictured in September 2009, is expected to make a full recovery after surgery on injuries he suffered in an horrific motorbike crash.—INTERNET

Netherlands’ forward Robin van Persie is treated by medics after a tackle during a FIFA World Cup 2010 friendly match against Italy at Adriatico stadium in Pescara on 14 November.—INTERNET

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Tottenham say goalkeeper Carlo Cudicini, pictured in September 2009, is expected to make a full recovery after surgery on injuries he suffered in an horrific motorbike crash.—INTERNET
Explosion in health centre kills mother and infant in W Afghanistan

KABUL, 16 Nov—In a terrible act a mother and her infant were killed as an explosive device went off inside a clinic in Herat Province west of Afghanistan, a local newspaper reported on Monday.

“The gruesome incident occurred in Gulran district on Saturday night when the explosive device planted inside the stove exploded, killing a mother and her newly born child,” Arman-e-Millie quoted Minister for Public Health Syed Mohammad Amin Fatimi as saying.

Meantime, a local official Ghulam Farooq Majroh said that a hand grenade apparently was inserted inside the stove and when the nurse wanted to burn wood in order to warm the room suddenly it exploded and causing the tragedy.

Residents visit a museum in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on the night of 14 Nov, 2009. More than 150 museums or cultural exhibitions were opened to the public for free during the annual “Night of Museums” in Buenos Aires. The cultural activity will finish at 2:00 AM on 15 Nov.—Xinhua

WEATHER

Monday, 16th November, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Kachin State, isolated in Chin State and Mandalay Division and weather has been generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above November average temperatures in Shan, Rakhnike and Mon States, upper Sagaina and Ayeyawady Divisions, (5°C) above November average temperatures in Kachin State and Mandalay Division and about November average temperatures in the remaining areas. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Patao and Machanbaw (0.28) inch each and PinyOod win (0.20) inch.

Maximum temperature on 15-11-2009 was 97°F. Minimum temperature on 16-11-2009 was 69°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 16 -11-2009 was 79%. Total sun shine hours on 15-11-2009 was (9.7) hours approximately. Rainfall on 16-11-2009 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 (4) mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 15-11-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 17th November 2009: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Kachin and Chin States, Sagaina, Mandalay and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the AE Sea will be slight in Myanmar waters. Outlook for subsequent two days: Slight decrease of night temperatures in the Eastern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 17-11-2009; Partly cloudy.
Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 17-11-2009; Partly cloudy.
Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 17-11-2009; Partly cloudy.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring areas

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11/17/2009, 8:43 AM
★ 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

Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Thein Sein

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Nov—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe welcomed back Prime Minister General Thein Sein who arrived back from Singapore after participating in the first ASEAN-US Leaders Meeting in Singapore, at Nay Pyi Taw Airport here today.

The Prime Minister was also welcomed back by 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, Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council General Thida Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thida Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, departmental heads, Ambassador of Singapore to Myanmar Mr. Robert Chua Hian Kong and officials.

Members of the Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister General Thein Sein, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and departmental heads—also arrived back on the same flight.

MNA

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe welcomes back Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA