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

Triple Lake Waterfalls: grand scenic beauty in Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden

As soon as we entered the Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden, the lush and beautiful scenes refreshed our minds.

The visitors took relaxation by enjoying various designs of water fountains with the green grass, blossoming flowers and beautiful flowery plants. The Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden attracts those who arrive in Nay Pyi Taw. The water fountain has a 180 feet long and five feet wide steel cable suspension bridge decorated with new and bright colourful paints.

We, the news team of the Myanma Alin Daily, had an opportunity to visit the Triple Lake Waterfalls recently-opened in the compound of Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden. From the bird’s eye view, we saw some visitors swimming in the lake. The triple lake was constructed to store clean water (See page 7)

Pyaingchaung Dam contributing to development of Kyauktaw

Pyaingchaung Dam situated in Kyauktaw Township of Rakhine State. (See page 7)
Pakistan claims first prize in Second U-18 Asian Men’s Hockey Tournament

YANGON, 22 Nov—Under the aegis of the Ministry of Sports, the final and third place matches of the 2nd U-18 Asian Men’s Hockey Tournament, organized by Myanmar Hockey Federation, took place at Thimbhu Artificial Turf Hockey Pitch today. Korea made an emphatic victory over Japan with 4-1 in the third placed event. Pakistan claimed the first prize with a decisive win over Malaysia 4-3 in the final event.

Fire Services Department
Director-General inspects fire brigades in Thayawady District

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Nov—Director-General U Myint Tun of Fire Services Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement presented a set of a Honda brand fire engine to Auxiliary Fire Brigade of Ngapyugyi Village in Thayawady District, Bago Division (West), through officials on 20 November.

Afterwards, the director-general presented uniforms and cash assistance for auxiliary fire brigades of Yekyi and Konyahta Villages. He inspected fire engines, maintenance of machines, training of fire brigade members, and viewed fire drills of the auxiliary fire brigade.

MNA

Peoples 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 inspects Kentung-Mongkhat-Inkolon road, Inkolon Village BEPS

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Nov—Chairman of Shan State (East) Peace and Development Council Commander of Triangle Region Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Phyo inspected Kentung-Mongkhat-Inkolon motor road on 16 November morning. He also visited students who are studying their lessons at Inkolon Village Basic Education Primary School. He presented books and foodstuffs to them.

Afterwards, the commander met local people in Loipantaung Village on Inkolon-Loipantaung road and presented medical equipment, foodstuffs, clothes, sports gear and cash assistance. The commander also viewed free medical treatment provided to local people. He presented foodstuffs and cash assistance to the local people in Inkolon Village.

MNA

Forestry Minister on inspection tour of Kachin State

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Nov—Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung on 16 November inspected thriving 1500 acres of teak plantation of Myitkyina Township and commercial teak plantations in Nantkhwin forest reserve of Mogaung Township.

In Hopin, the minister visited Local Trade and Sawmill Division, a private sawmill, Myotha raft jetty in Myitkyina timber extraction region. At Indawgyi sanctuary, Staff Officer U Sein Tun reported on conservation of Indawgyi forest reserve.

The minister viewed Nantsiaung raft jetty, ironwood and teak plantations in Indaw Township. At the office of the Assistant General Manager of Katha West timber extraction region, the minister met with staff under the Ministry of Forestry and gave instructions.

In the evening, the minister heard reports on tasks of timber extraction and construction of roads presented by officials at Shweli Mabein timber extraction region and Katha West timber extraction region.

MNA

Perspectives

Monday, 23 November, 2009

Build network of railroads for socio-economic improvement of local people

The government is making all-out efforts for bringing about equitable development throughout the nation. To realize the target, the Ministry of Rail Transportation is carrying out tasks such as renovation and upgrading of railroads and building new ones for ensuring better transport and regional development.

A ceremony to open the 27 miles long Pakokku-Kyunchaung railroad section on the Kyangin-Pakokku railroad, an integral part for development of the regions on the west bank of Ayeyawady river, was held at Pakokku Station, Pakokku Township on 20 November.

The 320 miles long Kyangin-Pakokku railroad—the 110 miles long Kyangin-Thayet section, the 100 miles long Thayet-Pwinthu section and the 110 miles long Pwintbyu-Pakokku section—are being constructed. And the 35 miles long Kanna-Thayet section of the Kyangin-Thayet section was opened on 17 October 2009. With this, people can easily travel from Kyangin to Thayet by railway.

On completion of the Kyangin-Pakokku railroad, one can travel to Myitkyina via Pathein-Kyangin, Pakokku, Monywa and Shwebo roads with the use of Pathein-Kyangin railroad and Pakokku-Kalay railroad. Moreover, people will be able to travel to Ayeyawady, Bago, Magway and Sagaing Divisions as well as regions of Chin and Kachin States.

We firmly believe that the emergence of a network of railroads the length and breadth of the nation will contribute a great deal to development of social, economic, health and education sectors of local people.

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Pakistan claims first prize in Second U-18 Asian Men’s Hockey Tournament

YANGON, 22 Nov—President of Asian Hockey Federation Sultan of Perak State HRH Sultan Azlan Shah of Malaysia presented the first prize to Pakistan, President of MHF Col Him Zaw Win, second prize to Malaysia and Vice-President of MHFU Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing, third prize to Korea. Champion Pakistan picked up a ticket for World Youth Games to be held in Singapore in 2010.—NLM

MSEA to hold AGM

YANGON, 22 Nov—The Myanmar Shrimp Entrepreneurs Association will hold its third annual general meeting at Thiri Annawa Hall of Myanmar Fisheries Federation on Bayintnaung Road in Insein Township here on 29 November. Members of MSEA are invited to attend the meeting whether they receive the invitation card or not.—MNA

President of Asian Hockey Federation Sultan of Perak State HRH Sultan Azlan Shah presents first prize to Pakistan team.—NLM

Commander inspects Kentung-Mongkhat-Inkolon road, Inkolon Village BEPS

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MNA
Obama’s job approval below 50 percent

PRINCETON, 22 Nov — Barack Obama’s job approval rating has dipped below 50 percent for the first time since he was inaugurated as US president, a poll released on Friday said.

The Gallup Organization said Obama ranks fourth among post-war presidents in the speed in which they sank to minority approval after Gerald Ford, Bill Clinton and Ronald Reagan, who, like Obama, was in his 10th month. All recovered and Clinton and Reagan went on to win second terms.

The most recent Gallup poll found that 49 percent of the US public approve of the way Obama is doing his job. Most of the decline in Obama’s popularity came during the summer, Gallup said, fueled by the long and contentious debate on healthcare and the continued economic slump.

Recent daily tracking polls have shown his approval rating at right around 50 percent.

Gallup surveyed 1,533 people by telephone between 17 Nov and 19 Nov as part of its daily tracking. The poll has a margin of error of 4 percent either way.

1000 people evacuated after Colombia volcano erupts

BOGOTA, 22 Nov — A thousand people were evacuated and traffic was stopped after the Galeras volcano erupted in southern Colombia without causing casualties, officials said on Saturday.

The locals were taken to shelters in Pasto, the capital of Narino department on the border with Ecuador, after authorities put the volcano — the most active in Colombia — on red alert to signal an imminent or ongoing eruption.

Some 9,000 people live in the vicinity of the volcano, which erupted at 8:37 pm Friday (0317 GMT Saturday), will be forced to leave their homes and seek refuge in temporary accommodations if the alert is prolonged, the Colombia Institute of Geology and Mining (Ingeominas) said.

Narino Government Secretary Fabio Trujillo, whose office coordinates volcano prevention, evacuation and relief efforts, told local radio that traffic restrictions would be imposed on the highway linking Pasto — 920 kilometers (570 miles) — to localities close to Galeras. The eruption caused ashfall in Pasto and surrounding villages, according to local media.

Roadside bombings kill two Afghan children

KABUL, 22 Nov — Continued militancy claimed the lives of two innocent Afghan children in a single on Friday in Afghanistan, officials said on Saturday.

A 13-year-old child was killed and a bridge was damaged as explosive materials went off in Afghanistan’s southern Kandahar Province, the birthplace of Taleban militants on Friday, said a statement of Interior Ministry on Saturday.

Terrorists, in an inhuman and un-Islamic act, detonated an anti-tank mine and suddenly it exploded killing the innocent child on the spot,” the statement added. Taleban militants who have intensified their guerrilla-like activities since early this year have not made comment.

Chinese rescuers are seen making their way into a mine near Hegang City in northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, on 21 November, where an explosion killed at least 87 workers. —Xinhua

15 dead, over 50 missing, 243 rescued after ferry sinks in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 22 Nov — Indonesian Health Ministry on Sunday evening reported 243 people had been rescued after Dumai Express 10 ferry sank in waters off Riau province of Indonesia, head of crisis center of the ministry Rustam Pakaya said here.

Over 50 people were still missing, and the rescuers have found 15 dead bodies out of about 300 people on board the ferry.

Earlier, rescuers decided Sunday evening to temporarily stop searching for the missing people, coordinator of the rescue mission Yasin Kosasih said.

Kosasih, who is also police chief at the province, said that the mission will resume on Monday.

“We stop searching for them now because it is difficult to search in the darkness. Besides, the wave is more than three meters high now and the wind is very strong,” he told Xinhua from a rescuing boat along with other boats heading to the nearest town of Tanjung Balai Karimun to bring back the bodies they have found. —Xinhua

Rocket hits outside luxury hotel in Afghan capital

KABUL, 22 Nov — A rocket hit outside the luxury Serena Hotel in Afghanistan’s capital late Saturday, wounding two people, the Interior Ministry said.

The heavily guarded Serena regularly houses visiting diplomats, officials and international workers. It has been the target of attacks before, most recently in late October when a rocket slammed into a courtyard.

In Saturday’s attack, a rocket hit low on the outside of a compound wall that rings the hotel, just behind a guardhouse, according to an Associated Press reporter who saw the impact spot. Rubble surrounded the area, but there was no large crater.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

A view of the Galeras volcano in 2005. A thousand people were evacuated and traffic was stopped after the Galeras volcano erupted in southern Colombia without causing casualties, officials said on Saturday.—INTERNET

A band performs at Sodre concert theater in Montevideo, Uruguay on 20 Nov, 2009. After 38 years of rebuilding and maintaining, the Sodre concert theater that was ruined by fire will open to public. With the latest advanced acoustic equipments, the biggest theater of Sodre has over 2,000 seats.—Xinhua

Internet
China’s food industry expected to expand 16.7% year on year

BEIJING, 22 Nov—Output value of China’s food industry is expected to grow 16.7 percent year on year, according to China National Food Industry Association (CNFIA).

Liu Zhi, CNFIA executive vice chairman, told the Seventh China Food Safety Annual Meeting held here on Saturday, that output value of the country’s food industry was expected to top 4.9 trillion yuan (717 billion US dollars) this year.

In the first five months of this year, output of the country’s food industry was 1.82 trillion yuan, an increase of 14.6 percent over the same period last year.

China’s food industry grows fast these years, while food safety situation is continuing improved, said Xiang Yuzhang, chief inspector of General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine.

According to Xiang, the country’s food safety watch dogs at all levels launched inspections to 1 million food producers this year, registered and investigated 70,000 cases.

Rate of qualified food products was 98.5 percent in the first half of this year, according to the country’s food safety inspection departments nationwide, said Xiang.

Poland to sell Ireland 15 million euro carbon credits

WARSAW, 22 Nov—Poland is to sell 15 million euros’ (22 million dollars) worth of carbon credits to Ireland, the Polish environment minister said on Saturday.

Maciej Nowicki said he expected an agreement for selling unused carbon dioxide emission rights to Ireland to be signed in the next week or two.

On 9 November Poland signed a deal to sell carbon credits worth 25 million euros to Spain.

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk said the Spanish deal would help fund his country’s drive to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve environmental protection. The coal-rich east European country currently depends on fossil fuels for 94 percent of its electricity, based on infrastructure dating largely from the communist era.

Central America demands billions in climate damages

GUATEMALA CITY, 22 Nov—Central American nations will demand 105 billion dollars from industrialized countries for damages caused by global warming, the region’s representatives said on Friday.

Central American environment ministers gathered in Guatemala to discuss the so-called “ecological debt” owed to them and to set out a common position ahead of climate talks in Copenhagen next month.

In the preliminary round to the 21st Miss Model of the World Overall Final, at the China’s Lao People’s Republic Cultural Village in Shenzhen, south China’s Guangdong Province, on 20 Nov. 2009.—Xinhua

Mediterranean states should cooperate to tackle unemployment

TUNIS, 22 Nov—Mediterranean states should energize their cooperation to eliminate unemployment, experts said on Saturday.

“I think countries in the region must share expertise to find the best way to counter unemployment,” said Taib Hadri, an expert at Tunisian Strategic Studies Institute.

Representatives of research and strategic studies organizations from Mediterranean countries are attending a two-day meeting, with labour market, illegal migration and regional integration top on its agenda.

“We need a common future vision for the Mediterranean. Cooperation between the North and the South is necessary. We need to improve economic partnership, boost trade exchange and upgrade development,” added Faïth Hadri.

Cecile Jolly, an expert from Mediterranean World Economic Prospect Institute, stressed the need to put the employment issue at the top of Mediterranean states’ agenda as a move to create enough jobs.

“Employment file must be included in the priorities of the North-South cooperation in order to identify the best way to reduce the jobless rate,” Jolly said.

Xinhua

Central America demands billions in climate damages

Tunisian Strategic Institute, added Taib Hadri.

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Guatemala’s former President and current Inter-American Development Bank President, Miguel Angel Y项目经理, said the region “had never faced” so much drought, aridity, flooding, and precarious food security.

Hugo Chavez invites Fidel Castro to Venezuela

CARACAS, 22 Nov—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez is inviting his mentor Fidel Castro to visit Venezuela during the coming months.

Chavez read aloud a letter to the 83-year-old former Cuban leader during a televised speech on Saturday night, saying “Venezuela awaits you.” Chavez proposed that Castro visit at some point between now and April, during a congress of his socialist party.

The 83-year-old Castro has not been seen in public since undergoing a series of emergency intestinal surgeries in July 2006. He handed the Cuban presidency to his brother Raul but has continued writing essays published by state media.

Xinhua

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Xinhua

View of a damaged national road in the outskirts of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in 2008. Central American nations will demand 105 billion dollars from industrialized countries for damages caused by global warming, the region’s representatives said on Friday.—INTERNET
American aircraft forced landing causes injuries in Mali

**Nouakchott, 22 Nov—** An American aircraft from Mauritania had a forced landing in northern Mali, causing injuries, security sources disclosed in Nouakchott.

The security sources said the plane was forced to land in an uninhabited zone due to a technical fault, without however disclosing in an uninhabited zone due to a technical fault, without however disclosing in an uninhabited zone due to a technical fault, without however disclosing in an uninhabited zone due to a technical fault, without however disclosing in an uninhabited zone due to a technical fault, without however disclosing the plane's destination and the number of people onboard. Several injured passengers in this accident were assisted by Malian emergency services, the sources said, adding the aircraft was seriously damaged. Mali has security and military patrols in its northern region, which is under special attention from the United States due to the fear of terrorist cells. Al-Qaeda is attempting to set up bases in the area, while traffickers want to turn it into an important transit point for drugs destined for the European market. —Xinhua

Iranian soldiers assault Yemeni fishermen in Gulf of Aden

**Sanaa, 22 Nov—** Iranian soldiers on Saturday assaulted a group of Yemeni fishermen off the southern coast of Yemen in the Gulf of Aden, Yemen's coast guard said. After receiving the distress signal sent by the Yemeni fishermen, Yemeni naval forces dispatched two vessels to the area where the assault took place, the coast guard said in a statement posted on the Interior Ministry's website.

“The Iranian soldiers assaulted us and searched our fishing boats from top to bottom,” the fishermen were quoted as saying.

An investigation was still under way, said the statement.

The incident came as Yemen has recently stepped up accusations that non-governmental Iranian Shiite groups are backing Shiite rebels in their fights with the Houthis in the country and in the region. —Xinhua

Singaporeans urged to learn from handling economic downturn

**Singapore, 22 Nov—** Singaporeans must be proactive when responding to changing circumstances, he said. In his opinion, a key factor that has helped the country come out of the economic downturn is the close relationship between the government, employers and unions. "And for a government to come in and make sure that there is equity between the employers and employees and working together, this is something unique that we have in Singapore and never, never let that go," he added. —Xinhua

China, French Polynesia pledge to boost cooperation

**Papeete, 22 Nov—** China’s top political advisor, Jia Qinglin, met with President of French Polynesia Oscar Temaru here on Saturday and they pledged closer cooperation.

During the meeting, Jia, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), hailed the long friendly exchanges and cooperation between the two sides. Jia said French Polynesia is known as the “Pearl of the South Pacific" and has a long history of friendly contacts with China.

In as early as the 19th century, there were Chinese settling on Tahiti, the most famous island among the Polynesian islands, who integrated themselves into the local society and actively participated in local economic development. They have served as a bridge linking the friendly and cooperative ties between French Polynesia and China, Jia said.

Both sides have seen more frequent exchanges and enhanced cooperation in the fields of economy, culture and tourism since the Chinese Consulate in French Polynesia opened in 2007 and the Chinese government granted the islands the status of designated tourist destination last year, Jia added. —Xinhua

Israel releases five PNA intelligence officers

**Jerusalem, 22 Nov—** Israel released five Palestinian National Authority (PNA) intelligence officers, local news service Ynet cited Palestinian sources as reporting on Saturday. Israel arrested the five officers near the West Bank village of Salfit on Friday morning, for the first time in about three years. According to the report, the five officers in the Palestinian General Intelligence Service (GIS) were released on Friday evening. Citing Palestinian sources, the Ynet said talks were held between the PNA and Israel in a bid to secure the officers' release.

A Palestinian security source in Salfit said the arrests were apparently made due to Israeli suspicions that the GIS was carrying out an investigation against a man suspected of collaborating with Israel. The source said he assumed this was the reason because all the five were part of the service's internal investigations department, adding that Israel had demanded that the PNA officers refrain from harming the suspect and that they release him from custody. The Israel Defence Forces stated in response that it would not comment on the Palestinian reports, said Ynet. The PNA stated it suspects that the arrests are another attempt to weaken its power in the wake of the political dispute with Israel over stalled peace talks. —Xinhua

Traditional Indian dancers prepare to perform as followers of Hare Krishna celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of their first temple in London during a dinner at the Troxy theatre in east London. —Xinhua
Mubarak vows not to tolerate attacks on Egyptians

CAIRO, 22 Nov — President Hosni Mubarak entered Egypt’s bitter soccer row with Algeria on Saturday, vowing in a televised speech that attacks on Egyptians abroad will not be tolerated.

Mubarak did not mention Algeria by name in his previously scheduled address to parliament, but it was clear he was referring to the fierce soccer rivalry that boiled over Wednesday’s match in Sudan, in which rioters in central Cairo on Thursday night and into Friday morning clashed with hundreds of police in an attempt to reach the Algerian Embassy. They threw rocks and smashed cars and shop windows.

The tension in the streets has also reached the diplomatic level, with Egypt bringing home its ambassador to Algeria. “I want to say in clear words that the dignity of Egyptians is part of the dignity of Egypt,” a visibly angry Mubarak told a joint session of parliament’s two houses.

“Egypt does not tolerate those who hurt the dignity of its sons,” he said, without saying whether his government planned to take punitive measures against Algeria.

Afghan troops detain a dozen Taleban militants

KABUL, 22 Nov — Afghan security forces have captured a dozen Taleban fighters in the western Nimroz Province, provincial governor Ghulam Dastgir Azad said on Saturday.

“The security forces, during a cleanup operation outside the provincial capital Zaranj late Friday, detained 12 rebels,” Azad told Xinhua.

A Taleban local commander Mullah Nimatullah is among those arrested during the operation, he added.

Taleban have not made any comment.

The militants are in a deadly bomb attack in the neighbouring Farah Province on the same day on Friday left over a dozen people, mostly civilians, dead and over three dozen others injured.

Israeli aircraft strike tunnels, arms factories

JERUSALEM, 22 Nov — Israeli warplanes hit two weapons-making factories and a smuggling tunnel in the Gaza Strip on Saturday.

The military says the air strikes on Sunday were in retaliation for rocket fire into southern Israel from Gaza a day earlier.

Later Saturday, Gaza’s Hamas rulers announced that militant factions in the territory had agreed to stop firing rockets. The goal is to prevent Israeli retaliation.

Israel went to war against Gaza militants nearly a year ago to crush rocket squads that had severely disrupted life in southern Israel for years. The number of attacks has decreased dramatically.

Man fatally stabbed over NYC subway seat

NEW YORK, 22 Nov — A subway passenger was stabbed to death in front of horrified riders in a dispute with another man over a seat in the car early on Saturday morning in midtown Manhattan, police said.

The victim, who has not been identified, was pronounced dead at the Seventh Avenue station at West 53rd Street, where the train stopped after the attack at about 2 am. The victim, who was in his mid-30s, was repeatedly stabbed in the neck and face with a knife, police said.

He had boarded the train at the Rockefeller Center station, police said. Gerardo Sanchez, 37, of the Bronx, was charged with murder and criminal possession of a weapon in the slaying on the northbound “D” train, police said.

Galileo’s fingers, tooth are found

Two fingers and a tooth removed from Galileo Galilei’s corpse in Florence in the 18th century and given up for lost have been found again and will soon be put on display, an Italian museum director said Friday.

In this image provided by Istituto e Museo di Storia della Scienza di Firenze shows a finger attributed to Galileo Galilei.

Skeleton of a dinosaur is pictured on display at a Tokyo museum. Scientists have discovered the first evidence that dinosaurs roamed the South Island of New Zealand with 70-million-year-old footprints found in six locations. They are the first dinosaur footprints found in the country although bones, mostly vertebrae, have been discovered in two North Island locations.

Three fingers, a vertebra and a tooth were removed from the astronomer’s body by admirers in 1737, 95 years after his death, as his corpse was being moved from a storage place to a monumental tomb — opposite that of Michelangelo, in Santa Croce Basilica in Florence.

One of the fingers was recovered soon afterward and is now part of the collection of the Museum of the History of Science, in Florence. The vertebra has been kept at the University of Padua, where Galileo taught for years.

Jordan, 23 Nov — Jordan announced a $250 million package Thursday to solve the food crisis in war-torn southern Iraq after the world’s largest aid group said more than 500,000 people were facing severe hunger.

A woman inspects a crocodile display in 2001 in Mexico. The fossils of five heretofore unknown bizarre-looking crocodiles which roamed the world 100 million years ago have been unearthed in the Sahara desert, US scientists revealed.

Toddler survives fall from three-story window in eastern Canada

An 18-month-old boy recovered well after falling from the window of his three-story home in eastern Canada reports reaching here said.

Police in Quebec City in the French-speaking Quebec Province said the boy was sitting on a windowsill and playing with his brother when he fell 10 meters onto a patch of grass below, the Canadian Press reported.

Spokesman Jean-Sebastien Roy said the boy appeared to have climbed up on a bed and was playing by the window when he fell.

Hair is displayed for sale in Justino Delgado’s natural hair store in Madrid. With the economic crisis, more and more Spanish women are selling their hair to make ends meet, delighting Delgado, who exports it for wigs and extensions.

Mexican once put up for oldest woman dies at 119

A Mexican once put forward for the title of the world’s oldest woman has died at 119, government officials said.

Ana Maria Perez died of pneumonia Tuesday at a hospital in the Pacific state of Colima, said Dora Yanez, an official with the Colima state Institute for Attention to the Elderly.

Perez has a valid birth certificate stating she was born June 22, 1890, in western Michoacan state. Yanez told The Associated Press.

State authorities applied about three years ago to have Perez declared the world’s oldest woman by the Guinness Book of World Records, but the attempt foundered when officials could not raise enough money for a Guinness judge to visit and confirm the claim, Yanez said.

Yanez said her institute first learned about Perez through her granddaughter. Institute officials were visiting the granddaughter — then 77 — to offer their services. They were shocked when the elderly woman said she had a grandmother who could also use help.
Triple Lake Waterfalls: grand scenic beauty in Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden

Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

Pyaingchaung Dam contributing to development of Kyauktaw

Translation: ZZS
Myanma Alin 22-11-2009

The government is building a cluster of dams and reservoirs all over the country in order to raise the living standard of local people. As a result, not only monsoon paddy but also summer paddy can be grown in different parts of the states and divisions.

The Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation inaugurated Pyaingchaung dam in Kyauktaw Township, Rakhine State on 30 March 2007.

With its 29,985 acres feet inflow of water, Pyaingchaung dam can store 25,025 acres feet of water when filled to the brim. The embankment of the dam is of earthen type with a water surface area of 625 acres. The embankment of the dam is 116 feet high and 860 feet long.

The emergence of a large number of dams and reservoirs the length and breadth of the nation has contributed a great deal to improvement of socio-economic status of the entire national people and regional development. Meanwhile, the increase in the agricultural production can be attributable to full supply of irrigation water. That is why the entire national people are to do their bit in maintaining and safeguarding those irrigation facilities, and only then, will they be able to make better use of them.

Translation: TTA
Myanma Alin: 20-11-2009
Site for construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Nov—Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint and Chairman of Magway Division PDC Col Phone Maw Shwe on 20 November morning arrived at Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) construction site. Deputy Managing Director U Kyaw Lin (Works) reported on sites the for axis of the bridge, Project Superintending Engineer U Han Soe on condition of motor road and railroad on Letpancharpaw bank and Deputy Chief Engineer U Shwe Lay on condition of motor road and railroad on Pakokku bank.

After cordially meeting with local people, the commander and the minister viewed the site for the bridge and the axis.—MNA

A&I Minister arrives back from Italy

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Nov—A Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo attended the 2nd Non-Aligned Movement First Ladies Summit on 16 November, the World Summit on Food Security on 19 and 20 November and the 36th Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization Conference on 19 and 20 November in Rome of Italy.

Mubarak, wife of the President of Egypt, presided over the summit. The meeting discussed loan assistance for farmland utilization and food production, and creation of more opportunity for women to take part in human resources development sector.

On 16 November morning, the World Summit on Food Security took place at the FAO headquarters in Rome of Italy, attended by heads of States/ Government, Presidents and Prime Ministers and ministers of NAM countries including Myanmar.

Madame Susanne Diouf, Senate Speaker of Italy Mr Renato Schifani, UN Secretary General Mr Ban Ki-moon and Rome Mayor Mr Giovanni Alemanno extended greetings.

The summit approved the declaration of FAO Summit, and participants of the summit delivered addresses on endeavours for food sufficiency, rural development for food sufficiency, role of farmers and commercial sector related to food sufficiency and prevention against damages in food sufficiency during the financial crisis.

Leader of the Myanmar delegation Maj-Gen Htay Oo discussed cooperation in agriculture sector, construction of Cyclone Shelter in the Nargis hit regions and availability of water in tropical region with Director of FOCSIV Board Mr Alberto Zambonetti at Mediterraneo Hotel.

On 19 November, Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo delivered an address at the 36th Session of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Conference and explained widely laying down the policies for boosting food and agriculture production, assistance for supply of water for agriculture purpose and inputs for the farmers while Myanmar is striving for overcoming difficulties of food sufficiency during the financial crisis, raising irrigated sown acreage to increase food production and endeavours for prevention against loss and wastage in food production in climate change.

The minister also met FAO Director-General Dr Jacques Diouf on 19 November afternoon and discussed progress in cooperation between Myanmar and FAO and requirements in collecting of farm census.

The minister received Special Diplomat of European Union to Myanmar Mr Piero Fassino and the Italian Ambassador to Myanmar at Mediterraneo Hotel on 20 November.

The minister explained endeavours of Myanmar on restoring peace and stability for economic development of the nation.

On 20 November afternoon, the Myanmar delegation left Rome and arrived back Myanmar on 21 November morning.

MYANMAR delegation led by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo attending 36th Session of FAO Conference.

Agriculture

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo meeting FAO Director-General Mr Jacques Diouf in Rome of Italy.

Agriculture
Shanmange Dam assisting in greening Meiktila Plain

(Capacity Development Courses of JICA conclude)

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Nov—The Capacity Development of Repairing Ships and Metal Structure Course and the Capacity Development of Ship Crew of IWT Vessels Course conducted by JICA, concluded at the hall of Ahlon Shipyards of Inland Water Transport on 20 November. Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung and in-charge (Myanmar Office) Mr Hideo Miyamoto of JICA delivered speeches. Mr Hideo Miyamoto handed over teaching aids and assistance to Managing Director U Soe Tint of IWT. The courses were opened on 19 October. Japanese instructors of JICA Project Team gave lectures to the trainees. A total of 30 engineers and technicians attended the Repairing Ships and Metal Structure Course and officers and technicians of IWT at the IWT Vessels Course. JICA Project Team provided Radars, GPS, radio (HF), radio (VHF), Anemometer and Barometer to IWT. Moreover, teaching aid worth US$ 36,300 were handed over to IWT vessels course.—MNA

Shanmange Dam assisting in greening Meiktila Plain

Thriving pigeon pea plantations seen near Shanmange dam.

(from page 16) Kyaupadaung road. Shanmange dam was built by damming Shanmange creek. Thanks to supplying irrigation water, the croplands between Shanmange dam and Montaing dam were turned into the farmlands, and now, the dam is irrigating 55 acres of farmlands. After the construction of Shanmange dam, Montaing dam can now irrigate more than 6880 acres of farmlands. In addition to 55 acres of paddy, Shanmange dam supplies irrigation water to sesame, pigeon pea, cotton and butter bean as mixed-crops. Shanmange dam, a modulating dam, supplies water to Montaing dam through Montaing creek not only for contribution to durability of Montaing dam but also for the greening of the region. Moreover, the dam is also able to prevent the overflow of Montaing dam. The government constructed the Shanmange dam by spending K 2519.83 million on the greening of Meiktila Plain. So the locals are enjoying the sweet fruits of the facility and it is incumbent upon them to help maintain the dam.

Translation: ZZS

Kyemon: 20-11-2009

MOSA holds get-together

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Nov—The Myanmar Overseas Seafarer Association held the 6th get-together in conjunction with the ceremony to pay respects veteran overseas seafarers was held at Du Fu Restaurant of Sedona Hotel in Yangon on 14 November. It was attended by veteran overseas seafarers, officers of maritime field and guests. Chairman of MOSA Captain U Min Sein extended greetings. The guests were served with lunch, and gifts were presented to the veteran overseas seafarers.

TRANSPORT

Mr Hideo Miyamoto of JICA Project Team hands over teaching aids and assistance to Managing Director U Soe Tint of IWT.

TRANSPORT

Water flows out from Shanmange dam.

Mr Hideo Miyamoto of JICA Project Team hands over teaching aids and assistance to Managing Director U Soe Tint of IWT.
Detained Saddam Hussein loyalists confess Baghdad deadly bombings

BAGHDAD, 22 Nov—Iraqi authorities broadcasted on Sunday a video showing three of Saddam Hussein’s Baath party members confessing to have planned massive truck blasts that killed and wounded more than 600 people in central Baghdad last month.

Qassim Atta, spokesman of Baghdad Operation Command, told reporters at a press conference aired by the official channel of Iraqia that the three confessed their role in committing the deadly bombings.

Three of Anbar on Sunday, killing three policemen and wounding nine people, a well-informed local police source said.

The incident took place around 10 am (0700 GMT) in the town of Garmah near the city of Fallujah, some 50 km west of Baghdad, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Among the nine wounded, six were policemen, the source said.

The blast left a police vehicle along with three nearby civilian cars charred and also caused damaged to surrounding buildings, the source added.

The once volatile province of Anbar has been relatively calm for more than two years.

Suicide car bomb kills three policemen in W Iraq

RAMADI, 22 Nov—A suicide car bomber struck a police patrol in Iraq’s western province of Anbar on Sunday, killing three policemen and wounding nine people, a well-informed local police source said.

The blast left a police vehicle along with three nearby civilian cars charred and also caused damaged to surrounding buildings, the source added.

The once volatile province of Anbar has been relatively calm for more than two years.

Five militants killed in Pakistan’s S Waziristan operation

ISLAMABAD, 22 Nov—In the last 24 hours, five militants have been killed during the Pakistani security forces operation in the country’s tribal area of South Waziristan, according to an army press release Sunday. It said that one soldier was injured in the operation.

Meanwhile, the military said that in the search operation in Swat and Malakand of the North West Frontier Province (NWFP), security forces arrested four militants. Four other militants voluntarily surrendered to security forces in the Swat operation, it added.

On relief activities, the military said that 14,044 cash cards have been issued to displaced families of Waziristan.

Gunmen shoot dead intelligence serviceman in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 22 Nov—Unknown armed men gunned down a service member of intelligence service in Taleban birthplace Kandahar south of Afghanistan on Sunday, a private television channel reported.

“Unidentified men shot dead an employee of National Security Directorate in Kandahar city this morning”, Tolo television said in its news bulletin.

No one has been arrested in the incident, it added.

However, it did not give more details.

Although no groups or individuals have claimed responsibility, Taleban militants fighting the Afghan government often target security forces and service members.—Internet
South Africa creates special ‘World Cup courts’

JOHANNESBURG, 22 Nov—South Africa plans to create special courts dedicated to handling crimes committed during the World Cup, aiming to speed up the judicial process, especially for cases involving foreigners.

Government hopes the promise of swift justice will help stamp out crime during the event and ease worries of fans visiting one of the world’s most violent countries.

“The courts are here to speed the process. There is not going to be any leniency,” said justice department spokesman Tlali Tlali.

“We’re going to deal with all cases that have to do with the tournament,” he said.

An average of 50 people die violently every day in South Africa, while 250,000 homes are burgled every year. The justice ministry is concerned that the influx of 450,000 tourists will bring with it a surge in crime.

“The experience from previous host countries has shown that the influx of foreign nationals in World Cups also potentially increases criminal activities,” the justice ministry said in a statement.

“Therefore, special measures do need to be put in place in order to process any criminal matters that may arise from big events such as the FIFA World Cup.”

Funeral workers risk cancer from formaldehyde

WASHINGTON, 22 Nov—Morticians who use formaldehyde to embalm bodies have a higher risk of leukemia, researchers reported on Friday.

They found deaths from one particular kind of leukemia, myeloid leukemia, increased the longer the workers were involved with embalming. Their study of more than 400 funeral workers is the first to look carefully at the association, they reported in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

“Previous studies have shown excess mortality from lymphohematopoietic malignancies and brain cancer in anatomists, pathologists, and funeral industry workers, all of whom may have worked with formaldehyde,” Laura Freeman of the US National Cancer Institute and colleagues wrote.

They studied 168 professionals who died of various forms of leukemia, 48 who died of brain tumors and compared them to 265 funeral workers who died of something else.

The people who spent more years embalming bodies or were otherwise exposed to embalming fluid were more likely to have died from a myeloid leukemia, the researchers found.

“In recent decades, more than 2 million US workers are exposed to formaldehyde, including anatomists, pathologists, and professionals who are employed in the funeral industry and who handle bodies or biological specimens preserved with formaldehyde,” they wrote.

Their study could help explain a known higher risk of death among these professionals, they said.

Roadside bomb kills five Afghan police

KABUL, 22 Nov—Five police were killed as a roadside bomb planted by Taliban militants struck a police van Sunday morning in south Afghanistan, police officer General Abdul Razaq said.

“The police were on routine patrol in Spin Boldak district of Kandahar province this morning when their vehicle overran a mine planted by rebels leaving five constables dead,” Razaq told Xinhua.

A contingent from Rivers State takes part in the Opening Ceremony of the 2009 Abuja Carnival Festival in Abuja, capital of Negeria, on 21 Nov, 2009. The 2009 Abuja Carnival is held in Abuja on Saturday.

Xinhua

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Internet
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF FORESTRY
MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE

DATED 20-11-2009

SEALED TENDER NO (STWB—02/2009-2010)
MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WILL HOLD A SEALED TENDER SALE AS FOLLOWS:

COMMODOITY : (i) TEAK P.T.G
: (ii) TEAK LAMPARQUET
: (iii) TEAK INDUSTRIAL PARQUET
: (iv) TEAK SCANTLINGS & BOARDS

QUANTITY : ABOUT (128.3510) TONS
DATE : 1.12.2009 (TUESDAY)
TIME : (12:00) NOON
PLACE : GENERAL MANAGER’S OFFICE, WOOD BASED INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE, AHILONE.

EARNEST MONEY : EURO 10000 IS REQUIRED FOR OVERSEA COMPANIES.
EURO 5000 IS REQUIRED FOR MYANMAR COMPANIES.

PLEASE CONTACT THE GENERAL MANAGER’S OFFICE, WOOD BASED INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT OF THE MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

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Gaza militants agree to halt rocket fire

Gaza City, 22 Nov — Hamas announced Saturday evening that it has reached an agreement with other militant groups in Gaza to stop firing rockets at southern Israeli towns to prevent retaliatory attacks.

Hamas has mostly refrained from firing rockets since January when Israel ended a three-week offensive in Gaza aimed at stopping almost daily militant attacks.

Other Gaza militant groups have since continued with rocket attacks, but on a much smaller scale than before.

About 1,400 Palestinians were killed, including hundreds of civilians, in the Israeli offensive according to UN and Palestinian estimates. Thirteen Israelis were also killed.

Hamas interior minister Fathi Hamad told reporters Saturday evening that all militant factions had now agreed to a cease fire.

He said the agreement was designed to prevent Israeli retaliation attacks and provide stability for Gaza residents. The cease fire would make it easier for Gaza residents to rebuild infrastructure destroyed in last winter’s fighting, he said.—Internet

South Koreans to get Apple’s iPhone this week

Seoul, 22 Nov — Apple Inc’s iPhone is coming to South Korea this week, a local carrier announced on Sunday, bringing the iconic communications device to one of the world’s most sophisticated mobile phone markets.

KT Corp began accepting orders for the iPhone both online and in stores on Sunday and service will start 25 Nov as part of an official launch, said Alice Park, a spokeswoman for the country’s second-largest mobile carrier.

The announcement ends a long wait in South Korea, which has lagged behind other countries in Asia in introducing the sleek smartphone that has grabbed headlines around the world and solidified Apple’s status as a purveyor of cutting-edge consumer electronics.

The South Korean market is dominated by domestic manufacturers Samsung Electronics Co and LG Electronics Inc, which are also big players overseas. Speculation has focused on how South Korean consumers, known for favouring the local makers, will react to the iPhone’s introduction.

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Turkey registers one more A/H1N1 flu death

Ankara, 22 Nov — One more Turk died of A/H1N1 flu in southeastern Turkey on Saturday, bringing the total number of fatalities blamed on the virus to 94, a high-ranking official said.

Kahramanmaras Governor Niyazi Tanilir said in a statement that a woman was taken from Koksun State Hospital to Medical Faculty of Kahramanmaras Sutcu Imam University for treatment on Monday and died of the novel flu.

On Thursday, the Turkish Health Ministry said in a statement that the death toll of the A/H1N1 flu epidemic rose to 93 in Turkey with 20 more victims reported in the past three days.

Currently, 280 people infected with the flu were treated in hospitals and 59 of them in intensive care units, the ministry said.—Xinhua

Three bomb blasts leave five dead, 25 wounded in India

Gauhati, 22 Nov — Three bombs exploded in India’s restive northeast on Sunday, killing five people and wounding more than 25, police said.

Five people died after two blasts went off within minutes of each other outside a police station in Nalbari town near the Assam state capital, Gauhati, a local police official said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity as he is not authorized to speak to the media, said about five minutes later a third blast occurred a few miles (kilometers) away. More than 25 people have been wounded in the three blasts.

India’s northeast is beset by scores of conflicts. More than 10,000 people have died in separatist violence over the past decade. The region is home to dozens of separatist groups who accuse the government of exploiting the area’s natural resources while doing little for the indigenous people.—Internet

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Hospital evacuated as Australian wildfires blaze

Sydney, 22 Nov — About 100 bushfires were burning in eastern Australia on Sunday as a hospital was evacuated and 1,000 firefighters battled the blazes amid sweltering conditions.

As temperatures soared past 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit), firefighters in central New South Wales state were fighting to keep the flames within containment lines around the towns of Rylstone and Kandos.

Firefighters fear a repeat of February’s firestorm in southeastern Victoria state in which 173 people were killed and more than 2,000 homes were destroyed.

Rylstone Hospital has been evacuated as a precaution against the fires.

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101-yr-old Brazil architect back at work

Brasilia (Brazil), 22 Nov — Famed 101-year-old Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer is reportedly back at work just weeks after surgery for gallstones and an intestinal tumor.

The daily newspaper O Globo reports that Niemeyer is working on a collection of buildings in the city of Niteroi, outside of Rio de Janeiro.

Niemeyer designed much of the futuristic Brazilian capital of Brasilia and Rio’s Sambadrome, home of the annual carnival parade. He also helped design the United Nations building in New York City.

Niemeyer was hospitalized from 23 Sept to 17 Oct. On Saturday, El Globo quoted him as saying that being hospitalized “is a very lonely thing.”

“I needed to keep busy, keep in touch with friends, maintain my rhythm of life.”

Niemeyer’s 102nd birthday is on 15 Dec.—Internet

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Two men blow the lusheng musical pipe to pray for good luck and bumper harvest during the Lusheng and Horse Fight Festival held in the Sports Park in Rongshui Miao Autonomous County, southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 21 Nov, 2009.—Xinhua

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Obesity in adolescence may increase girls MS risk

NEW YORK, 22 Nov—A woman’s risk of developing multiple sclerosis (MS) during her lifetime is doubled if she was obese at age 18, new research shows. This is the first study to link MS risk with obesity, study co-author Dr. Kassandra L. Munger of the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston told Reuters Health in a telephone interview.

MS is a disease of the central nervous system. Up to half a million Americans have MS, with about 10,000 new cases diagnosed every year. While it is not usually fatal, it is a chronic unpredictable disease with no known cure. The symptoms, including dizziness, blurred vision, slurred speech, sexual dysfunction, incontinence, shakiness, loss of coordination, and weakness, can be debilitating when flare-ups occur. It is not a common disease. According to Munger, women generally have a 1 in 100 risk of developing MS during their lifetime compared to the 1 in 8 lifetime risk of breast cancer.

Munger and her colleagues studied women enrolled in the Nurses Health Study and Nurses Health Study II over a 40-year period. Participants answered questions throughout the study about weight, height, body size, smoking and exercise habits, and disease status. —Internet

Exercise important in teens’ blood pressure control

NEW YORK, 22 Nov—Regular exercise may help keep teenagers’ blood pressure in check, regardless of their body weight, a new study suggests.

Researchers found that among nearly 1,300 Canadian teenagers they followed for five years, declining exercise levels over time were linked to small increases in blood pressure.

Gains in body fat were also linked to blood pressure increases, but excess weight did not fully account for the relationship between exercise and blood pressure changes — especially in girls.

The implication, the researchers report in the American Journal of Epidemiology, is that both weight and exercise habits independently affect teenagers’ blood pressure. And that means getting teens off the couch might help keep their blood pressure under better control, write Katerina Maximova and colleagues of McGill University in Montreal.

The findings are based on 1,293 boys and girls who were 12 to 13 years old at the start of the study. The teens reported on their typical physical activity levels and had their body fat and blood pressure measured at the outset, and then periodically over five years. —Internet

Tree-eating bugs threaten Monarch butterfly in Mexico

MORELIA, 22 Nov—The mysterious Monarch butterfly, which migrates en masse annually between Canada and Mexico, is now facing a new peril: another insect thriving in Western Mexican forests.

Some 8,000 oyamel fir trees — the butterflies’ unique mountain habitat each winter — were cut down in July in a bid to remove beetles that threaten the Monarchs’ ages-old migration.

But now another small beetle has since taken to devouring the savory tree trunks, further endangering the butterflies winter colonies.

“We are working to determine how many trees have been affected,” said Homero Gomez, president of El Rosario Sanctuary, a premier migrating spot for the Monarch in the western Mexican state of Michoacan. —Internet

Monarch butterflies in the Mexican state of Michoacan. The mysterious Monarch butterfly, which migrates en masse annually between Canada and Mexico, is now facing a new peril: another insect thriving in Western Mexican forests. —Internet

Ukraines hot air bedevils global climate deal

KONSTANTINOVKA, 22 Nov—Vladimir Gapor is a plumber by trade, but now he’s a scavenger, prying bits of scrap steel from the ruins of his old factory and selling them for a pittance.

For others beyond this manufacturing graveyard, however, Ukraine’s economic collapse has produced a potential multibillion-dollar bonanza. In an era of climate change regulation and carbon trading, Ukraine, ironically, is profiting from the smokeless smokestacks of its industrial shutdown.

How well and how long it will profit is an under-them-radar issue complicating negotiations for a worldwide climate accord being sought at a 192-nation conference in Copenhagen next month.

Gapor’s old factory, which made glass for the Soviet military and space programme, shut down in the early 1990s after the Soviet Union disintegrated. Private wrecking crews and desperate jobless people like Gapor then turned the town’s industries, which once employed 16,000 workers, into heaps of bricks. —Internet

Hackers leak e-mails, stoke climate debate

LONDON, 22 Nov—Computer hackers have broken into a server at a well-respected climate change research centre in Britain and posted hundreds of private e-mails and documents online — stoking debate over whether some scientists have overstated the case for man-made climate change.

The University of East Anglia, in eastern England, said in a statement on Saturday that the hackers had entered the server and stolen data at its Climatic Research Unit, a leading global research centre on climate change.

The university said police are investigating the theft of the information, but could not confirm if all the materials posted online are genuine.

More than a decade of correspondence between leading British and US scientists is included in about 1,000 e-mails and 3,000 documents posted on Web sites following the security breach last week.

Some climate change skeptics and bloggers claim the information shows scientists have overstated the case for global warming, and allege the documents contain proof that some researchers have attempted to manipulate data. —Internet

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Ferguson looks ahead to New Year duel with Chelsea

Manchester, 22 Nov—Sir Alex Ferguson believes Manchester United can take charge of the title race if they reach the New Year in touch with leaders Chelsea. Goals from Darren Fletcher, Michael Carrick and Antonio Valencia completed a 3-0 victory for Ferguson's side over Everton that kept them within five points of Carlo Ancelotti's side.

The United manager declared himself satisfied with his side's performance after criticising his players for failing to make the most of their chances in front of goal in recent games. And he maintains that if they can reduce the deficit between themselves and Chelsea over the next five weeks, they can step up their title challenge during the second half of the campaign. Internet

Chinese weightlifter Ding Jianjun retains men's 62kg world title

GAOTANG, 22 Nov—Ding Jianjun of China claimed his first world title in the men's 62kg division at the world weightlifting championships on Saturday.

Ding, 20, won the title with combined lifts of 146kg in the snatch and 170kg in the clean and jerk to finish with 316kg.

Irawan Eko Yuli of Indonesia took the silver on 316kg with 316kg in the snatch and 170kg in the clean and jerk to finish world weightlifting championships here on Saturday.

Fletcher celebrates 3-0 victory over Everton that kept them within five points of leaders Chelsea. Internet

Benitez backs Reds to secure top four finish

LIVERPOOL, 22 Nov—Liverpool manager Rafael Benitez brushed aside his team's stuttering form to insist that they will finish in the top four.

The defiant Spaniard watched from the sidelines as Saturday's 2-2 home draw with Manchester City left last season's Premier League runners-up with just one win in 10 games in all competitions.

It would have been far worse had substitute Yossi Benayoun not salvaged a point with a late equaliser after goals from Emmanuel Adebayor and Stephen Ireland threatened another dismal day for the Merseysiders.

But a bad day from Liverpool got even worse as Benitez, already missing key striker Fernando Torres and Glen Johnson through injury, saw Danish defender Daniel Agger stretched off with concussion, while Dutch forward Ryan Babel damaged an ankle.

Yet Benitez is confident his side will bounce back with a winning run once his walking wounded have recovered, and believes Liverpool will still seal a Champions League berth next season despite their poor form. Internet

Real Madrid take uninspiring win over Santander

MADRID, 22 Nov—A goal from Real Madrid striker Gonzalo Higuain was enough to give his team all three points at home to struggling Racing Santander on Saturday night.

Higuain maintained his place in Real Madrid ahead of Raul Gonzalez, who on Thursday had returned to the starting line-up after missing all of Spain's four games in the last month.

However, in the first half it was clear that the one training session Portugal had been able to hold with his players following his appointment on Thursday had not been enough to work any major changes. Internet

Barcelona surrenders league leadership in Bilbao

MADRID, 22 Nov—FC Barcelona retained its unbeaten start to the season but surrendered the leadership of the BBVA Primera Liga following a 1-1 draw away to Athletic Bilbao on Saturday.

Dani Alves opened the scoring for Barcelona early in the second half, while Gaizka Toquero leveled for Athletic less than ten minutes later.

Barcelona had drawn its last two away games, but began in Bilbao with a will to put that run to an end.

Spain internationals midfielders Xabi Hernandez and Andres Iniesta were on the top of their game, while Leo Messi could easily have scored after taking the ball past Athletic keeper Gorka Iraizoz. However, he took the ball too wide and the defense was able to recover.

Barcelona dominated the ball and produced several decent chances, with Pablo Rodriguez and Xabi Hernandez both going close to opening the scoring. Internet

Gunsers given glimpse of life without van Persie

LONDON, 22 Nov—Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger refused to blame the absence of Robin van Persie as his team failed to score for the first time this season in a 1-0 defeat at Sunderland.

But the evidence of a below-par performance suggests the loss of the Dutch striker for up to six weeks because of an ankle injury could be a major handicap to Arsenal's title prospects.

They are now eight points behind Chelsea and the leaders' visit to the Emirates Stadium on Sunday (29 November) is looking like a contest the Gunners cannot afford to lose.

Wenger however glossed over the significance of van Persie's absence, preferring to blame slack defending when Darren Bent scored Sunderland's 71st-minute winner.

The Frenchman said: "I don't want to focus on an individual. It's down to the fact we made a big mistake at a corner. Some of our players were not at their best and we gave a goal away in the only situation where Sunderland were likely to score — from a set piece."

Sunderland's Darren Bent (left) celebrates his goal with captain Lork Cana during their Premier League match against Arsenal at the Stadium of Light in Sunderland, north-east England. Sunderland won 1-0. Internet

Canada's Steve Molitor (R) lands a punch on Argentina's Jose Saez (L) during their Junior Featherweight boxing match in Orillia Ontario on 21 Nov, 2009. Internet

Answers to yesterday's Crosswords Puzzle

EIGHT MELLES XUR CAL AT
CRAN IUM DEMUR IMA ONE
 TIDY LAGRENS EALEANS
 GR I DOTECEOJTO F
 RECLUSES OHOSTO
 OSS WFR CIVET STRATUM
UU EEE EEIEI STRIDE YMOVE Internet

Sunderland's Darren Bent celebrates his goal with captain Lork Cana during their Premier League match against Arsenal at the Stadium of Light in Sunderland, north-east England. Sunderland won 1-0. Internet

Canada's Steve Molitor (R) lands a punch on Argentina's Jose Saez (L) during their Junior Featherweight boxing match in Orillia Ontario on 21 Nov, 2009. Internet
German troops attacked in N Afghan province

KUNDUZ (Afghanistan), 22 Nov—Taliban militants attacked a patrol team of German forces in Kunduz province north of Afghanistan on Sunday, officials said.

“German troops were on routine patrol in Nahr-e-Sufi area of Chardara district when Taliban insurgents targeted them with rocket propelled grenade at 2 pm local time but caused no loss of life and damage,” governor of Chardara district Abdul Wahed Omankhil told Xinhua.

A spokesman with German troops in Kunduz province Mertiene also in talks with Xinhua confirmed the attack but stressed that there were no harm to the troops. He further said that aircrafts in retaliation pounded Taliban positions and inflicted casualties on militants.

Meantime, Zabihullah Mujahid who claimed to speak for the Taliban outfit in talks with media via telephone from undisclosed location claimed that three German soldiers were killed in the attack, a claim rejected by officials in the province as groundless.—Xinhua

Stjepan Bozic of Croatia reacts after losing a super middleweight WBA world championship boxing fight against Dimiri Surtson of Germany in Kiel on 21 Nov, 2009.—INTERNET

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (23-11-2009) (Monday)

Transmissions

Local
Europe
North America

Times
- (09:00am - 10:00am) MST
- (15:30pm - 23:30pm) MST
- (23:30pm - 07:00am) MST

Local Transmission
* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
* Chin Cultural Museum
* Yoke Sone Monastery of Lai Kai Ancient City
* A Day in Yangon ‘The National Races Village (Part-II)
* Culture Stage
* The Artworks of Bagan Gift Centre
* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission
* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights
* Chin Cultural Museum
* Yoke Sone Monastery of Lai Kai Ancient City
* A Day in Yangon ‘The National Races Village (Part-II)
* Culture Stage
* Myanmar Modern Song
* The Artworks of Bagan Gift Centre
* Graduation Works show Arts
* The beautiful lake...where the natural biodiversity gathers
* Myanmar’s Steamed Rice Cake
* Myanmar Modern Song
* Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Mingun, Sagaing Division)
* Song of Myanma Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

WEATHER

Sunday, 22nd November, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been scattered in Shan State, isolated in upper Sagain and Mandalay Divisions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (5°C) above November average temperatures in Bago Division, (3°C) to (4°C) above November average temperatures in Shan and Chin States, Mandalay, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) below November average temperatures in upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) below November average temperatures in Rakhine State and lower Sagaing Division and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (0°C), Lolin (7°C), Machanbaw and Mindat (8°C) each and Putao (9°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Minesat (0.24) inch and Lolin (0.20) inch.

Maximum temperature on 21-11-2009 was 94°F. Minimum temperature on 22-11-2009 was 63°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours on 22 -11-2009 was 57%. Total sun shine hours on 21-11-2009 was (9.6) hours approx.

Rainfall on 22-11-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, at Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (111.69) 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 South east at (16.30) hours MST on 21-11-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 23rd November 2009: Likelihood of isolated rain in Shan State and Taninthayi Division, weather will be generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%).

State of the sea: Strong easterly wind with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltac, Gulf of Motama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coast. Surface wind speed in the strong wind may reach (35) m.p.h. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in the upper Myanmar areas. Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 23-11-2009: Fair weather.


Only with stability and peace will the nation develop
Only with stability and peace will democratization process be successful

Anarchy begets anarchy, not democracy
Riots beget riots, not democracy
Democracy can be introduced only through constitution

People’s Desire
- We favour peace and stability
- We favour development
- We oppose unrest and violence
- Wipe out those inciting unrest and violence

VOA, BBC—sowing hatred among the people
RFA, DVB—generating public outrage
Do not allow ourselves to be swayed
By broadcasts designed to cause troubles

Shanmange Dam assisting in greening Meiktila Plain

Shanmange Dam assisted in greening Meiktila Plain. After that, we proceeded to Shanmange Dam situated near Shanmange Village through Meiktila. (See page 9)