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

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

Four social objectives
- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation.
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character.
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit.
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation.
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order.

Welcome to Pakokku

Article: Dr Thet Lwin; Photos; Aung Than (Mingalar Taungnyunt)

“...”

Aung Zeya Housing Estate for war veterans

Article & Photos: Kyaw Kyaw (16)

I had an opportunity to attend the second ceremony to hand over 50 housing units to disabled war veterans at Aung Zeya Housing Estate in North-West Command Headquarters on 20 October 2009. I was also present at the first ceremony to hand over 50 units on 24 March 2009.

Upholding the guidance of the Head of State, the Directorate of Resettlements builds and provides housing for physically-handicapped war veterans, superannuation pensioners, families of fallen servicemen, and servicemen who have retired from armed forces for various reasons. It also makes contribution to the housing projects being implemented by military commands.

Aung Zeya Housing Estate being established by the North-West Command is located at Mile Post No 1/6 of Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa Road (junction of Yinnabin-Pale-Monywa Road) on the west bank of the Chindwin River in Yinnabin Township, Monywa District. Up to now, 379 plots have been reclaimed on a 30.88-acre land. And 100 units each have been built, 100 feet to the south and north of Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa Road. The units are of three types: warrant officer housing, sergeant housing, and corporal/private housing. All of the houses are of wooden type with concrete post shoes and are roofed with corrugated iron sheets. Now, a 315 KVA transformer, 7200-gallon overhead tanks and...
Ngwechi (6) cotton deserves extensive cultivation

Being gifted with rich natural resources, temperate climate pattern and fertile soil, Myanmar is a land where crops thrive well.

Now, the government is growing extensively such plants for industrial raw materials as long staple cotton and rubber, which help improve the nation’s economic growth, in the regions with favourable climate.

In clothing, one of the three basic needs of human beings, the nation had to import cotton in the past. Now, several high-yield strains of cotton such as Ngwechi (6) strain are grown on a large scale at home.

Rice, beans and pulses, corn, cotton and sesame are some of the nation’s major crops. Farming Ngwechi (6) strain long staple cotton is a lucrative business, so many farmers have turned a lot to that cotton strain for agricultural purposes.

Trial cultivation of Ngwechi (6) strain long staple cotton has proved successful in Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing and Bago divisions. Now, Textile Factory (Pyawbwe) has launched its production lines of 1/32, 1/21, 1/40 and 1/10 types of thread.

Ngwechi (6) cotton strain is resistant to harsh weather and pests that can cause adverse effect to cotton yield, so farming Ngwechi (6) cotton strain costs less.

Ngwechi (6) cotton has long thread with high quality, and it grows well both at the beginning and at the end of monsoon. Kyaukse, Meiktila, Myingyan and Yamethin districts grow Ngwechi (6) strain cotton on a wider scale than any other region in Myanmar.

On the whole, farmers should grow Ngwechi (6) strain cotton extensively for higher incomes and boosting production of goods.

PPE distributes diary for 2010

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 Nov—Printing and Publishing Enterprise under the Ministry of Information has started selling diary for 2010.

The diary carries 2009-2010 calendar, important phone numbers, trunk call telephone code numbers, metric conversion table and motorways and railways to other towns from Nay Pyi Taw. The diary books are available at K 1,000 each at Sarpay Beikman bookshop, No. 529031, Merchant Street, Yangon (Ph-01-249031); Sarpay Beikman bookshop, No. Ta-55, Thabyaygon Market, Nay Pyi Taw (Ph-067-414681); Sarpay Beikman bookshop, Mandalay, (Ph-02-62925, 62931), News and Periodicals Enterprise Bookshop, No.212, Theinbyu Road, Yangon (Ph-01-294306); Inwa...
Venezuela warns UN on US military bases in Colombia

CARACAS, 26 NOV—The Venezuelan government warns the United Nations that the establishment of seven US military bases in Colombia would pose a danger to Latin American stability.

Venezuela’s UN Ambassador Jorge Valero’s warning was an answer to the Colombian government’s denouncement of Venezuela’s President Hugo Chavez in front of the United Nations. Chavez said the government of Colombian President Alvaro Uribe had already shown its hostile intentions, backed by US technology.

Chavez would track the armed conflict in Colombia and the risks of establishing US military bases in Colombia, which were included in a military cooperation agreement between Colombia and the United States, Valero added.

“Our country wants to contribute to the peace, and it will take the necessary measure to keep safe, inside the judicial law, the Venezuelan territorial security and sovereignty of the people,” Valero declared.—INTERNET

Mexican president: gangs were ‘taking over’ Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 26 NOV—Mexican President Felipe Calderon said in an interview that crime gangs and drug cartels were “taking over Mexico” before he launched his offensive against them, he said, and the crackdown had achieved uneven results. Calderon’s comments were taped prior to his statement on Wednesday that reducing poverty is now “the first priority” for his administration. But the news network Televisa made it clear he wasn’t abandoning the war on drugs.

“Here the choice cannot be between combating organized crime, as we are doing, or watching it take over Mexico, the way it was taking over Mexico before we acted,” Calderon said. “There is only one alternative is to combat and destroy” organized crime, he said, “and we are going to destroy it.” But Calderon acknowledged uneven results.—INTERNET

Prime suspect in Philippine massacre surrenders

AMPUTAUN, 26 NOV—A scion of a powerful clan suspected in the massacre of 57 people in an election caravan in the southern Philippines turned himself in Wednesday amid mounting pressure on the government to crack down on lawlessness and warlords. The dead from Monday’s massacre include the wife, family and dozens of journalists and supporters of a gubernatorial candidate who wanted to challenge the rival Ampatuan clan, which has ruled Maguindanao Province unopposed for years.

Andal Ampatuan Jr., a town mayor who allegedly stopped the convoy with dozens of police and pro-government militiamen, surrendered to presidential adviser Jesus Dureza in the provincial capital of Shariff Aguak, said military commander Lt Gen Raymundo Ferrer.—INTERNET

Blast injures at least three policemen in NW Pakistan

PESHAWAR, 26 NOV—At least three policemen were critically injured in a remote-controlled explosion near a private school in Charsadda, the outskirts of the northwestern Pakistani city of Peshawar on Thursday morning, police said.

According to the police sources, a bomb planted targeting a restaurant, on Wednesday, in Central Karbala, killing 4 civilians and injuring 29 others, health officials said.—INTERNET

Six family members killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 NOV—Assailants broke into a house and killed six family members before dawn on Wednesday in an area north of Baghdad that was once a stronghold of al-Qaeda in Iraq, Iraqi officials said.

The dead included a couple and two daughters, and two brothers of the husband, according to a police officer in Tarmiyah, 30 miles (50 kilometers) north of the capital. The throats of two women were slit, while the other four people were shot execution-style; two of the couple’s other children were not harmed.—INTERNET

Eight Taleban militants killed in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 NOV—A helicopter belonging to an international military contractor providing logistic support to NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) made emergency landing in Logar Province some 80 km south of Afghan capital Kabul, provincial administration spokesman said on Thursday.

“A helicopter belonging to Supreme Global Service Solution made emergency landing in Kharwar District and left the scene later on late Wednesday,” Din Mohammad Darwish told Xinhua.—Xinhua

Helicopter makes emergency landing near Afghan capital

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“A helicopter belonging to Supreme Global Service Solution made emergency landing in Kharwar District and left the scene later on late Wednesday,” Din Mohammad Darwish told Xinhua.—Xinhua

An Iraqi soldier searches a cart at a book market of Al Mutanabi street, central Baghdad, Iraq, on 25 Nov, 2009.—INTERNET

An Iraqi woman reacts in al-naqeeb neighborhood, central Karbala, 80 kilometers (50 miles) south of Baghdad, Iraq, following a suicide bomb explosion, on 25 Nov, 2009. A suicide motorcycle bomber detonated his explosives targeting a restaurant, on Wednesday, in Central Karbala, killing 4 civilians and injuring 29 others, health officials said.—INTERNET

An Iraqi woman reacts in al-naqeeb neighborhood, central Karbala, 80 kilometers (50 miles) south of Baghdad, Iraq, following a suicide bomb explosion, on 25 Nov, 2009. A suicide motorcycle bomber detonated his explosives targeting a restaurant, on Wednesday, in Central Karbala, killing 4 civilians and injuring 29 others, health officials said.—INTERNET

Xinhua

Xinhua

Xinhua

Xinhua

An army officer escorts Ampatuan Jr. (C), mayor of Datu Umapot town, after he surrendered in Ampatuan, Maguindanao in southern Philippines on 26 Nov, 2009.—INTERNET

Xinhua

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Xinhua

A medic looks over the X-ray of a boy who was injured in a bomb blast in Peshawar on 26 Nov, 2009.—INTERNET

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Toyota to replace gas pedals on 4 million vehicles
WASHINGTON, 26 Nov — Toyota plans to replace the gas pedals on 4 million vehicles in the United States because the pedals can get stuck in the floor mats and cause sudden acceleration, a flaw that led to the sixth-largest recall ever in the US.

The repairs are a critical step to restoring the reputation of the world’s biggest automaker, which suffered a blow when the recall was announced in September after years of making safe, reliable cars and trucks.

In plans outlined on Wednesday, dealers will offer to shorten the length of the gas pedals by three-fourths of an inch beginning in January as a stopgap measure while the company develops replacement pedals. New pedals will be installed by dealers on a rolling basis beginning in April, and some vehicles will get a brake override system as a precaution.

The massive recall is the largest in the US for Toyota Motor Corp. The Japanese automaker had earlier told owners to remove the driver’s side floor mats to keep the gas pedal from becoming jammed.

Tight economy forces some to stay home for holiday
CHICAGO, 26 Nov — There’s still family, turkey and football, but one Thanksgiving tradition is taking a hit this year. Millions of Americans are spending the holiday at home, saying the poor economy has made it unaffordable to hit the road or board a plane.

“It’s too expensive,” said Benita Hall, 24, a nurse’s aide who can’t afford to travel from Cincinnati to Atlanta to see her mother and siblings. “It’s depressing because you want to be with your family for the holidays.”

Nearly 38 million people are expected to take trips this year, slightly more than last year but 20 million fewer than in 2005 when the economy was better, according to AAA auto club. Air travel is expected to drop 6.7 percent this holiday compared with last year, AAA said.

Brazil’s consumer confidence highest in 18 months
RIO DE JANEIRO, 26 Nov — Brazil’s consumer confidence index (ICC) improved to 18-month high in November, the Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV) said on Wednesday.

The index reached 115.4 in November, up from 113.7 in the previous month.

The FGV nationwide ICC index runs from one to 200 points, with 100 being considered as “neutral”. The ICC was 115.7 in May 2008. It was the second consecutive monthly increase in the index to reflect the consumers’ satisfaction with the country’s current economic situation and their optimism for the months to come, according to the FGV.

The ICC is formed with the Present Situation Index (ISA) and the Expectations Index (IE).

In November, the ISA rose for the seventh consecutive month, reaching 124.3 points while the IE rose from 109.4 to 110.7 points.

The indicator which measures the consumers’ satisfaction with the local economy also increased to reach 91.7 points, up from 89.6 points in October to post the highest figures registered in 20 months.

Dead Sea needs world help to stay alive
GHOB HADITHA, 26 Nov — The Dead Sea may soon shrink to a lifeless pond as Middle East political strife blocks vital measures needed to halt the decay of the world’s lowest and saltiest body of water, experts say.

The surface level is plunging by a metre (three feet) a year and nothing has yet been done to reverse the decline because of a lack of political cooperation as a result of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The shoreline has receded by more than a kilometre (around a mile) in some places and the world-famous lake, a key tourism destination renowned for the beneficial effect of its minerals, could dry out by 2050, according to some calculations.

“It might be confined into a small pond. It is likely to happen and this is extremely serious. Nobody is doing anything now to save it,” said water expert Dureid Mahasneh, a former Jordan Valley Authority chief.

“Saving the Dead Sea is a regional issue, and if you take the herit age, environmental and historical importance, or even the geographical importance, it is an international issue.”

Landlocked between Jordan, Israel and the West Bank, the Dead Sea is rapidly vanishing because water which previously flowed into the lake is being diverted and also extracted to service industry and agriculture.
Chinese cultural relics back home

BEIJING, 26 Nov—Nine bronze pieces that date back to the 11th century BC have been retrieved and brought back to China. The ancient cultural relics were illegally transported overseas, but have now been donated by private collectors and returned to their country of origin.

Chinese American couple Fan Jirong and Hu Yingying made the donation. These nine bronze wares date back to the Western Zhou Dynasty and the Spring and Autumn Period. Six of them came from the Qin Mausoleum in northwest China’s Gansu province. They other three are from the tomb of a high government official in north China’s Shanxi province. They represent the highest achievement of bronze forging techniques in the early period of Chinese civilization.

Unfortunately, these cultural relics were excavated by illegal diggers in the 1990s and then transported overseas. Finally, they came into the private collection of Mr Fan, and he volunteered to donate these relics back to their home country. Fan Jirong, donor, said, “There’s one thing I believe that only Chinese people can truly understand these objects. So, we just wanted them to be returned to their native home.” For a long period beginning in mid-19th century, the western powers, in a succession of wars of aggression against China, plundered and looted countless Chinese cultural relics. According to statistics, more than ten million Chinese cultural relics were lost to Europe, North America, Japan, and southeast Asian countries and regions due to war and illegal trafficking.

Screenshot photo shows the donation ceremony of Chinese ancient cultural relics donated by a Chinese American couple Fan Jirong and Hu Yingying. Xinhua

Indian official demands for US lift on American technology transfer to India

WASHINGTON, 26 Nov — A senior Indian official on Wednesday reiterated call for the United States to lift restrictions on American technology transfer to India a day after US President Barack Obama’s meeting with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh at the White House.

Addressing a forum held by the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington, Montek Singh Ahluwalia, an economic advisor to Singh, said that Washington ought to take action to remove technology transfer controls to broaden cooperation between the US and India.

“We are very hopeful that…there will be a significant easing of technology controls,” Ahluwalia said of a joint statement issued after Obama-Singh meeting on Tuesday. Obama and Singh agreed that “strengthening high technology trade between their countries is in the spirit of their strategic dialogue and partnership,” the joint statement said.

Global warming could cost Europe up to 65 b euros a year

BRUSSELS, 26 Nov—Global warming could cost Europe up to 65 billion euros (97.5 billion US dollars) a year if the climate expected in the 2080s occurred today, a study warned on Wednesday.

The study, which was funded by the European Commission, showed that the EU would face yearly losses of gross domestic product (GDP) between 20 billion euros and 65 billion euros, depending on the temperature increase in Europe.

Under the worst case scenario, when temperature increases by 5.4 Celsius degrees and sea level rises by 88 centimeters, it was estimated that the overall damage to the European Union (EU) economy would be as high as 65 billion euros a year.—Xinhua

Xinhua

National theater of China reopens

BEIJING, 26 Nov—Formerly known as the China Experimental Theater, the National Theater of China is at the forefront of China’s avant-garde theater movement. It has been a hot-bed for nurturing contemporary stage actors and directors.

Recently, the mini theater of the National Theater of China has reopened with four new plays showcasing new talent. A renovated theater, a newly built rehearsal hall, some fresh faces, and four brand new plays. These ingredients make for an intriguing season at the National Theater of China.

Kicking off the performance season is a play called “Ahead of the Horse.” Teeming with strong Beijing flavor, it loosely chronicles the three thousand years of Beijing’s evolution from an imperial capital to a modern metropolis.

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

Chinese father, son translate US’ landmark Theory of Literature in 28 years

SHANGHAI, 26 Nov—Two Chinese professors of English literature, also father and son, have completed the translation of US comparative literary critic Rene Wellek’s landmark volume Theory of Literature in 28 years. The eight-volume Chinese version of the Theory of Literature, one of the first works that systematized literary theory, was put on shelf by the Shanghai Translation Publishing House on Wednesday. It has a total of 3.5 million Chinese characters in the books.

Yang Qishen, an English and American literature professor of the prestigious Fudan University in Shanghai, began to translate the masterpiece in 1981 when he was 72. His son Yang Ziwu, 54, began to translate the book several years later after his father got sick. Yang Qishen died in 1996 and his son carried on with the translation.—Xinhua

Local citizens enjoy a happy interaction with the mascots Leyangyang, namely happy goat, on the high-profile publicity of the 2010 Asian Games in Guangzhou, which is on schedule from 12-27 Nov next year, during the activity of Round Tour of Asian Games in China, at Wuhan, central China’s Hubei Province on 25 Nov, 2009. —Xinhua

Shaw Studios returns to film, marking 50 years of production

BEIJING, 26 Nov—Shaw Studios, founded by China’s Hong Kong media mogul Sir Run Run Shaw, has announced its return to the film industry after a 22-year absence, with 72 Tenants of Prosperity currently under production. The film, to be released during Spring Festival, has gathered 174 film stars from Hong Kong, the Chinese Mainland and China’s Taipei. Having dominated much of the Asian film market in the 1980s and 90s, Shaw Studios has not only produced films significant to Asia, but most of the world. Directors including Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez have publicly acknowledged the influence that Shaw films have had on them and their careers.

All Items from Xinhua News Agency

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“Vegetative” for 23 years, Belgian man gets “second birth”

BEIJING, 26 Nov — A Belgian man, who was thought to have been in a vegetative state but then found conscious for the past 23 years, said he got a “second birth” after doctors worked out a way for him to communicate. Rom Houben, now 46, had been wrongly diagnosed in a vegetative state after a serious car accident when he was 20.

But doctors found his brain was still functioning; he was simply paralyzed and unable to communicate. Using a specially-adapted computer to type messages, Houben has now been able to describe the ordeal he endured for more than two decades.

Tapping on a computer touchscreen with his finger, Houben wrote he felt “alone, lonely, frustrated” in the ordeal he endured for more than two decades. He could hear what was being said around him throughout but was unable to respond.

Surprise! your skin can hear

Bryan Gick of the University of Virginia said last week that he and his colleagues have discovered that people can hear sounds through their skin, according to a new study.

The finding, based on experiments in which participants listened to certain syllables while puffs of air hit their skin, suggests our brains take in and integrate information from various senses to build a picture of our surroundings.

Along with other recent work, the research flips the traditional view of how we perceive the world on its head. “That’s very different from the more traditional ideas, based on the fact that we have eyes so we think of ourselves as seeing visible information, and we have ears so we think of ourselves as hearing auditory information. That’s a little bit misleading,” study researcher Bryan Gick of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, told LiveScience.

“This more likelihood is that we have brains that perceive rather than have eyes that see and ears that hear. “With such abilities, Gick views humans as “whole-body perceiving machines.” The research, funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada and the National Institutes of Health, is detailed in the 26 Nov issue of the journal Nature.—Internet

Swiss pilot attempts first intercontinental crossing by jet wing

Swiss pilot Yves Rossy will attempt to become the first person to make an intercontinental crossing by jet wing on Wednesday. Rossy will fly from Morocco to Spain in jet-powered wings provided by Webtel.mobi, a mobile phone company that has funded the stunt.

“It’s going to be historic. No one has ever done this before,” Rossy said in a statement. The launch will take place on Wednesday at 2:30 pm Central European Time from one of five possible locations on the Northwest coast of Morocco. When the launch aircraft has reached 6500 feet above sea level, Rossy will jump. He will fly 40 kilometers to Atlantia, on Spain’s southwestern coast, in an estimated 13 minutes.

Transport ready for S Africa World Cup

JOHANNESBURG, 26 Nov—The transport sector is ready to ensure that the first ever soccer World Cup on African soil becomes a runaway success, the South African Press Association cited the country’s Minister of Transport S’tu Ndebele as saying on Wednesday.

“It was the responsibility of the Department of Transport to deliver fans, media, players and officials in luxury, comfort and safety from the airport to the hotel, the hotel to the stadium and back.”

Ndebele said. “We have this great responsibility to deliver a successful soccer World Cup so that Africa can say we delivered the soccer World Cup. If we fail, Africa fails. None of us can afford to fail.”

To Ndebele, the broad principles of the “2010 Transport Action Plan” were to accelerate existing transport plans and maximize existing transport infrastructure, improve public transport and promote its use, integrate existing transport services and accelerate implementation of the government’s economic and sustainable development policies.

According to Ndebele, the Department of Transport would provide a fleet of 2,035 luxury and standard buses, 60 train sets and 1,000 bus coaches. Some 1,400 luxury cou-ches had been procured which would become part of government’s fleet once the event is over.—Xinhua

Boy, 13, spent 11 days riding subway

Authorities in New York said a 13-year-old spent 11 days riding subway trains while police and his parents searched the city for him. Police said Francisco Hernandez Jr, who suffers from a form of autism known as Asperger’s syndrome, boarded a subway train after school 15 Oct and was not found until a transit officer recognized him from a poster 26 Oct, The New York Times reported on Tuesday.

Investigators said they do not know how the boy evaded being spotted for 11 days, but they believe he spent the entire time riding trains and waiting at stations. The boy told police he ate small items purchased from subway newsstands.

Two million tickets to go on sale for 2010 Asian Games

GUANGZHOU, 26 Nov — Two million tickets will be available for worldwide sales and 87 percent of all tickets for the 2010 Asian Games will range from 1.5 to 58 US dollars, organizers announced on Wednesday.

Ticket prices for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies range from RMB1,600 (about 234.24 US dollars) to RMB6,800 (995.52 US dollars).

There will be more than two million tickets available to the public all over the world, as the 42 sports of the Games will take place in 53 venues.

According to Yuan Yue, deputy director of the Marketing Department of the Guangzhou Asia Games Organizing Committee (GAGOC), ticket sales are divided into three stages and the first will start in January 2010.

Junior students play a huge pipe organ at the Shenyang Conservatory of Music in northeast China’s Liaoning Province on 24 Nov, 2009. The newly-installed organ with a height of nine metres and weight of seven tons are made of about 2,000 pipes, among which are 60 wood pipes and over 1,900 metal pipes.

Nepali oldest climber included in Guinness Book

Min Bahadur Sherchan, 77, on Monday was listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for being the oldest man to climb Mt Qomolangma.

“I am happy and proud to have put Nepal on the world map,” said Sherchan. He reached the world’s highest peak on 25 May, 2008, according to Tuesday’s The Kathmandu Post.

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Internet

The new Droid phone, a Motorola Inc. and Verizon Wireless phone based on Google Inc’s Android 2.0 system, is shown at a media event in New York on 28 October 2009.—Reuters

Belgian Rom Houben (C), 46, stays next to his mother Fina (R) and an assistant at Weyerke institute in Heusden-Zolder on 25 Nov, 2009.—Xinhua

Swiss pilot Yves Rossy, who suffers from a form of autism known as Asperger’s syndrome, boarded a subway train after school 15 Oct and was not found until a transit officer recognized him from a poster 26 Oct, The New York Times reported on Tuesday.

This picture taken shows 75-year-old Japanese adventurer Yuichiro Miura conquering the summit of Mt Everest, Miura, who just lost his title as the oldest man to climb Mount Everest to a Nepalese fellow septuagenarian, vowed on Tuesday to do one better and scale the peak at aged 80.
Aung Zeya Housing Estate for war veterans

Minister 
Brig-Gen 
Kyaw Hsan 
enjoys the 
Volleyball 
match 
between 
Ministry of 
Information 
and Ministry of 
Industry-1. 
MNA

Electric power is supplied to the housing estate through 315 KVA transformer.

A row of 7200-gallon overhead tanks.

Aung Zeya Housing Estate for war veterans

A row of 7200-gallon overhead tanks.

Aung Zeya Housing Estate Project is being implemented in a well-organized way under the aegis of the Leading Committee with the commander of North-West Command as patron, arrangements by various supporting committees, and close supervision of the deputy commander and the colonel general staff.

Each of the 50 first-batch houses has to grow and nurture three teak saplings and four eucalyptus saplings apart from vegetables in the compound concerned, and the programme has proved successful due to the fact that the family members in return have responded to the gratitude of the benefactors.

Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe addressed both ceremonies to hand over housing units, saying that he undertook the project not only adhering to the duties assigned to him by his superiors, but also due to his recognition of the war veterans’ sense of sacrificing their interest along with his good-will.

In a word, Aung Zeya Housing Estate Project is making significant progress as a result of loving-kindness and goodwill conceived by esprit de corps.
It is time to do the right thing

Hlaing Bwa (Parami)

I imagine travelling to the place where the Maykha and Malikha rivers flow together and merge to become the Ayeyawady river. The waters there are as clear as crystal and flow steadily down to the plains. Is there anyone or anything that can prevent these waters from flowing at any point along their path? There are also many rivulets and creeks flowing into the Ayeyawady river along its path, making it stronger and mightier. Who or what forced these rivers, rivulets and creeks flow into the Ayeyawady? No one or nothing. They merge together of their own accord. It is their nature.

In the same way, although the Thanlwin, the Sittang, the Chindwin, the Laymyo and the Kaladan rivers flow along their respective paths, they finally flow into the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal. Who is strong enough to change their paths or stop them from flowing into the ocean? In monsoon, we can't expect rain from any place or any direction. Needless to say, only the clouds formed in the sky above the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal bring rain to us. And it hardly need to prove that no one can destroy the Union of Myanmar, home to various national races living under the same sky and drinking the same water. It is a self-evident truth.

With this truth as a proof, those who have left the days of suspicion behind will now be able to gild and beautify the pages of history. With the determination to do their bit in national defence and to protect, with the arms lighted with the people's loving kindness every inch of the State from being attacked or taken away, Kachin Special Region-1 (NDAK) and Kayah State Special Region-2 (Ka-La-Ta) were transformed into the border guard force on 8 November, 2009. It was the day they gave the picture of history a new coat of paint.

Touching the national flag while marching past it, they took an oath they were determined to give their lives for their nation, for their people and for their Tatmadaw. It is the fourth of the four noble oaths of a member of the Tatmadaw. Even hearing them taking the oath gave the audience goose pimples. It was hard to imagine how they themselves felt. They shouted loud, deep from their hearts, that would give rise to a drive between them and the government. These broadcasting stations are plotting to destroy the plan for formation of the border guard force. Opinions and attitudes are likely to differ among the groups that have already returned to the legal fold. Therefore, the broadcasting stations are sending out only negative news to increase the number of negative persons. Only the breach of wars, bloodshed and splits, they will have the news they want and get their pay. Therefore, they do not want to hear any news of peace. We should know well that people from these broadcasting stations will say right is wrong and white is black and make a mountain out of a molehill if they will become famous.

Myanmar has an area of more than 260,000 square miles and shares the land border stretching a total length of about 1358 miles with her neighbours, and it implies that the nation needs strong forces to justly defend its border against possible threats. Myanmar is not the only country that has border guard forces or border defence forces. For instance, India has Border Security Force (BSF); Bangladesh, Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB); Pakistan, Frontier Corps (FC); Thailand, BPP; and China, PAP. All those forces are under the control command of the armed forces concerned.

In this regard, the processes are common and they go as usual. Every country applies their own ways and means to safeguard their borders. It is clear why some are trying to hinder Myanmar's process to form border guard forces. Some countries wish to make money in a dishonest way in their border areas. If they trade legally with Myanmar, they have to offer reasonable prices for the goods they want to get. And they consider that they can get goods at far low prices if the government's commercial control is less effective and they deal with illegal armed groups in illicit trade. Some want to ignore the laws in doing activities, so they are in fear that national race peace groups will be harmonious with the Tatmadaw. Some are desirous of weakening the nation. So, they drive a wedge among national races, and are tricking those members from the national race armed groups who are in a dilemma about the process, saying that what the members' conditions will be like if they are incorporated into border guard forces. Some opportunists posing like politicians worry that they will no longer get alien assistance for destructive acts if State stability has been restored. In the context, some have said bluntly. Some sows discord among national races through anti-government foreign radio stations, but they ironically say in dialogues and interviews that they favour stability in the State.

However, they were shocked to hear the news about the formation of national race peace groups into border guard forces at the ceremonies held on a grand scale in Special Region (1) in Kachin State, and Special Region (2) in Kayah State. In contrast, young troops from remaining national race armed groups were excited to read the news about the ceremonies in newspapers and watch on TV. They did not expect that the ceremonies would be held on that grand scale, and they realized the difference between what they were misinformed and what happened at the ceremonies. Whatever it is, Special Region (1) in Kachin State, and Special Region (2) in Kayah State have played an exemplary role in order that the rest of the national race armed groups would be able to visualize what the way the government has paved for ensuring State security and national reconsolidation will be like. Now, unbreakable friendship has been established with the Thanlwin River and the Ayeyawady River as symbols of unity.

The inferno of doubts among the national races is dwindling away, and it will be extinguished completely one day. Previously, national race armed groups were recognized by the minority of the local people concerned, but now they have become members of border guard forces winning the recognition from the entire people. Wherever they are posted to in the nation, they are Tatmadaw members of the State. Not only local people in Kachin State and Kayah State but also the people from the four corners of the country have recognized them as Tatmadaw members who defend the border of the nation. Therefore, it should not be remarked that national race peace groups have lost their dignity and rights because of their being members of border guard forces. In reality, they have not lost any rights. If someone says turning a blind eye to the truth that they have lost their dignity and rights, his will be utterly ridiculous words.

In some parts of the Ayeyawady River, the current turn reddish due to some muddy water flowing into the river. However, some time later, the current turns transparent. In like manner, the currents of the Chindwin, the Thanlwin, the Sittong, the Laymyo and the Kaladan rivers turn reddish in some parts. The sediment in the rivers will settle sooner or later, and they empty themselves into the Indian Ocean and get together. That water again vaporizes and it falls down to the ground as rainwater to cool and green the regions of the national races.

It is high time all national races joined hands firmly with one another. I would like to urge all national race groups to make a decision to transform themselves into border guard forces to achieve greater success, defending the border of the motherland against all types of threats.

Translation: NN + MS
Welcome to Pakokku

(from page 1)

flows into your own territorial waters. The long coastal region is a treasure house. There are also plenty of cultural heritage with strong historical background, for example, places like Bagan and Inlay. The country is also rich in natural resources, such as forests, crude oil and so on. What’s more, there is a considerable number of youths who would offer their services for reasonable pay. They can speak English,” the foreigner expressed his opinion.

It is true. Just look at Pakokku, my native town. While discussing at writer Maung Win Tha’s home, a friend of mine said, “Pakokku is stated as the main economic zone in the blueprint of the long-term project of Myanmar. What is your opinion?”

“Maybe, sir. Draw a straight line from east to west and another line from north to south on the map of Myanmar. The point where the two lines meet is Pakokku. In other words, it is the central part of Myanmar. Pakokku is the region that links back doors to China and India. It is also the place through which products from Chin state, Yaw region and Banchi region are transported to other regions. Mt. Pontaung and Mt. Ponnya stand side by side stretching over 100 miles. The region is also thickly covered with forests. Yaw creek, Maw creek and Salin creek flow all year round. So, various strains of crops grow well in large quantity. So, I would say Pakokku becomes a large market,” I replied to him.

“Traders from Yangon never think of leaving Pakokku market. Pakokku has different characteristics from other towns that in Pakokku, it is easy to purchase various kinds of goods in large quantity. For example, consumer products ranging from tobacco leaves to pepper, onion, potato, peas and beans, jaggery, tamarind, cutch, timber, groundnut, sesame, and so on can be purchased. So, for example, one has bought cutch as he thinks the price is reasonable. Then he changes his mind and wants to resell it for he doesn’t think it would make the profit he desired, he can sell it in the same day. Then, he doesn’t want to take the money back to Yangon, instead he wants to store onions, and just with a telephone call the order can be changed within a week’s time. It was impossible to do so in other towns. These words are said by U Paw War of Yi Shin Company. Yi Shin Company and I have been trade partners since the establishment of the company. Since the time of the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party, Pakokku has had a large number of factories and workshops. For example, virginia factory, cigarette factory, Kyunchaung cement plant, Myitcchay horse farm, electricity generating plant, gas station, cotton mills, private sawmills, oil mills, weaving and footwear businesses and so on. Rice from Ayeyawady was stocked at Pakokku and then transported to Yaw region, Chin State and as far as to India. Pakokku has already had infrastructures like electricity, telephones, road and water transportation. Looking back at the history of Pakokku, we can see two major changes—one after emergence of Z-craft on Kyunchaung-Bagan route, and another after installation of telephones in the township.

After 1988, Pakokku has grown at a great pace. There have emerged a large number of railroads, motorways, and river-crossing bridges. Communication System has much improved than ever. The number of workshops and factories has evidently increased. Many large factories and manufacturing plants are also under construction in Myaung. Railroads like Pakokku-Gangaw-Kalay and Pakokku-ChaungU-Mandalay have come into existence. In the near future, rail transportation to Pathein will be possible via Pakokku-Thayet-Kyangin railroad. When construction of river-crossing bridges are completed, train running from Pakokku can reach the whole country.

There is a poem that says “If Ayeyawady river does not separate Pakokku and Myingyan, one can make round trip ten times in a day, and that will soon become true as said in the poem. I have learnt in newspapers that bridges spanning Ayeyawady river are in the course of construction to link Pahtanagoh and Malun, Pakokku and Latpanchaypaw village.

Poet Salin Phone Kyaw even made a joke, composing a poem that says “ When the bridge is completed by coach I will come back home.” Pakokku is the biggest town on the west bank of Ayeyawady river. In compliance with the slogan of the Government, “Bore tunnel when mountain blocks, Construct bridge when river obstructs”. Ayeyawady river and Pontaung, Ponnya mountains are no more natural barriers. The east and west banks of Ayeyawady river have become connected. Girls from Central Myanmar may put up Pathein parasols, while girls of Pathein may apply Shinmataung Thanakha on their bodies and drink swe et jaggery, boiled with tamarind.

“One can view Bagan which is within a stone’s throw distance from Pakokku, on the other side of Ayeyawady river. One can pay homage to pagodas and stupas with continuous ringing sound of bells spread in the air. Sasana flourishes in Pakokku and will persist till the end of the world.”

“We invite you to come and visit Pakokku. There are many interesting places you should visit. Let’s go to Mt Tantkyi. Shwe Paunglaung is nice and pleasant. There are a lot to learn in Tharekhlan Pagoda and Pakhan. Sweet-scented Shin Mataung Thanakha is suitable for present taking home. One will also be satisfied with Yaw longyi and rough cloth woven from fawn coloured cotton. I am not exaggerating. Come and see Pakokku, the songs titled “Welcome to Pakokku” and “Capital of West Ayeya” composed by Maha Swe and sung by mandolin Hla Tin are reverberating in my ears.

Translation: TKK
Positive changes in Seikpyu Township

Byline & Photos: Reporter Singu Soe Win

It is learnt that extensive cultivation of onion in alluvial land of Yaw creek, Chit creek, and Hsin creek in the cold arid zone.

The ratio of residents in rural areas to those in urban regions stands at 20:1 and the township has seen progress while striving for all-round development of rural folks. Seikpyu Township, which was a mere rural town in the past has now much improved with tarred roads, pavements, gravel roads, inter-village roads, tube wells, motorbikes, motor tricycles and 10-wheeled trucks. In addition, Seikpyu now trades not only with Yangon and Mandalay but with various townships in the country, thanks to the emergence of Anawrahta Bridge.

The township targeted to grow 22,031 acres of monsoon paddy in 2009-2010, and so far 6,280 acres have been cultivated. Under the aegis of the township Peace and Development Council, the township Peace and Development Council, Ministry of Development Affairs, and the efforts of the township Development Affairs Department and wellwishers.

As a sign of prosperity of local people, Padamyar Market of the township DAC becomes a marketplace trading with Saw, Hsinbyugyun, and Salin Townships. The market was bustling with shops selling various kinds of local products including differently patterned of Yaw longyis.

The township DAC has so far constructed 11,619 feet of tarred roads, and 320 feet of gravel roads in urban areas and three furlongs of gravel roads, 3 miles and 6 furlongs of laterite roads, 3 miles and 1 furlong of earth roads in rural areas after 1988.

The township DAC has established women’s Vocational Training schools throughout the country. Seikpyu Town- ship Women’s Vocational Training School had produced 607 sucessful trainees from 26-12-2005 to June, 2009. Seikpyu Township has much developed in the time of the Tatmadaw Government. The scene of the township has much improved thanks to Anawrahta Bridge, Yaw Creek Bridge, bellaric myrobalan oil mill, Domestic Training School, Auto Exchange, and tarred roads. Furthermore, Pwintbyu-Pakokku railroad will be constructed through Seikpyu Township in the near future that future development and prosperity of Seikpyu Town- ship can be imagined. Seikpyu Township, a small rural town twenty years ago, has changed completely with harmonious development in urban and rural areas which leads to improved socio-economic life of local people.

Villagers of Kon village fetching clean drinking water.

Signboard at the entrance to Seikpyu Township.

Thrusting onion plantations in Seikpyu Township, Magway Division.
Joint meetings of ASEAN-Russia held

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Nov—The 8th meeting of the ASEAN-Russia Joint Cooperation Committee, the 7th ASEAN-Russia Joint Planning and Management Committee and the 2nd ASEAN-Russia summit on ASEAN-Russia work meeting were held at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on 25 and 26 November. They were attended by delegations led by Directors-General of ASEAN member countries and the Russian Federation and high-ranking officials of ASEAN Secretariat. Acting Director-General U Tint Swe of Myanmar-ASEAN Affairs Department and Director-General Mr Bakhtier Khakimov of ASEAN and Asia Pacific Affairs Department, the Russian Federation acted as co-chairmen.

The meeting reviewed the status of the Roadmap on the implementation of the Comprehensive Program of Action (2005-2015) between ASEAN and the Russian Federation.

In compliance with the instructions from the ministers during the ASEAN Post Ministerial Session with the Russian Federation held on 22 July 2009 in Phuket, Thailand, there were substantial discussions on cooperation in combating terrorism and transnational crime, economy and energy cooperation, holding of business-forum on the sidelines of the ASEAN-Russia Summits and the progress achieved in the areas like culture, energy, disaster-management, counter-terrorism, science and technology.

The meeting updated on the status of Dialogue Partners Financial Fund (DPFF) including five Approved Joint Projects and five Joint Projects under the DPFF presented at the 6th meeting of the ASEAN-Russia PIMC and the 7th meeting of the ARICC.

The meeting further discussed the guidelines and flowchart for selecting, approving, financing and reporting on joint ASEAN-Russian Federation activities and programmes of cooperation.

The meeting agreed to hold the meeting of Russia-ASEAN Directors-General back-to-back with Russia-ASEAN senior officials’ meeting in Moscow early in 2010.

MNA

IBTC OPEN Golf Championship in December

YANGON, 26 Nov—Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA will organize IBTC OPEN Golf Championship as the fifth leg of Myanmar Golf Tour 2009-2010 by the sponsorship of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd, GP Watch and Yangon Golf course.

The championship is mainly sponsored by International Beverages Trading Co Ltd (IBTC) with co-sponsors Air Bagan Ltd, KBZ Bank Ltd, Hotel Yangon, KM Golf Centre, HAN Golf Masters Pte Ltd, Myanmar Tha Shina Trading Co Ltd, Bay of Bengal Resort (BOB), (INAX, T-Home), CEPSA Lubricantes, ACCEL International Co Ltd (Canon), Imperial Jade Purified Drinking Water, Lifeline Co Ltd, GP Watch and Yangon Golf course.

Contact Ko Htay Lwin (ph; 951555613), Capt Thein Soe Oo (Retd) (ph; 095023116), Ko Win Naing (Bayintnaung) (ph; 095152657), Ma Than Win and sisters (ph; 01 248020), Ko Bo Kyaw (Maya Gold Jewellery) (ph; 095148451), Ko Win Naing (ph; 061 50571), Ma Aye Myint Than (BEHS-2) (ph; 061 50586), Ko Thein Tun Oo (ph; 0982221119), Ko Win Maw (Mandalay) (ph; 092026545) and Ko San Htoo (Natmauk) (ph; 063 69108).—MNA

Kyaupkadaung BEHS (2) respect-paying ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Nov—Basic Education High School No (2) Kyaupkadaung (formerold model school) will hold the 12th Respect-Paying ceremony along with donation for late teachers, prize presentation to three distinction winners with top marks in 2009 academic year, funding for holding annual respect-paying ceremony and donating books to the library of school at the hall of the school at 2 pm on 26 December.

Those who want to donate may contact Ko Htay Lwin (ph; 951555613), Capt Thein Soe Oo (Retd) (ph; 095023116), Ko Win Naing (Bayintnaung) (ph; 095152657), Ma Than Win and sisters (ph; 01 248020), Ko Bo Kyaw (Maya Gold Jewellery) (ph; 095148451), Ko Win Naing (ph; 061 50571), Ma Aye Myint Than (BEHS-2) (ph; 061 50586), Ko Thein Tun Oo (ph; 0982221119), Ko Win Maw (Mandalay) (ph; 092026545) and Ko San Htoo (Natmauk) (ph; 063 69108).—MNA

Tatmadaw Football Tourney (2009) commences

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Nov—The first-stage round robin matches of the 48th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament (2009) took place at respective zones today.

In Group (A) match held in Eastern Command Zone (Taunggyi), No 22 LID and North-East Command held a 1-1 draw; in Group (B) in South-West Command Zone (Pathein), No 77 LID trounced No 101 LID 8-1; in Group (C) in North-West Command Zone (Monywa), Coastal Region Command thrashed 6-0; and in Group (D) in Southern Command Zone (Tongoung), North-West Command hammered No 88 LID 6-0. MNA

Photo taken on 25 Nov, 2009 shows a fairyland view of terraced folk dwellings hazed in the expansive dense fog, at the mountainside of Yellow Mountain, in Yixian, east China’s Anhui Province. XINHUA
Curbing global warming saves lives, studies say

WASHINGTON, 26 Nov—Cutting global warming pollution would not only make the planet healthier, it would make people healthier too, new research suggests. Slashing carbon dioxide emissions could save millions of lives, mostly by reducing preventable deaths from heart and lung diseases, according to studies released on Wednesday and published in a special issue of The Lancet British medical journal.

Global and US health officials reveled the results as they pushed for health issues to take a more prominent role at upcoming climate change negotiations in Copenhagen. Also on Wednesday, President Barack Obama announced that he would go to Copenhagen at the start of international climate talks. US health officials said the timing was not planned.—Xinhua

Clean energy, better homes cut pollution, save lives

HONG KONG, 26 Nov—Better home insulation and ventilation and using electricity instead of fossil fuels could reduce indoor pollution and save thousands of lives, especially in low-income countries like India, a study has found.

Using mathematical modelling and case studies, researchers said such strategies could avert 5,500 premature deaths and reduce carbon dioxide emission by up to 41 megatonnes, or 41 million tonnes, per year in a country like Britain.

“Indoor household fuel pollutants would be removed by switching all household fossil fuels to electricity, and energy could be saved by reducing thermostat temperatures,” the researchers said in a paper published in The Lancet Series on Health and Climate Change.

Led by Paul Wilkinson at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, the researchers said the costs of such energy-efficient improvements would be substantial but would be offset by significant savings on fuel.

The researchers examined the benefits of introducing cleaner cooking stoves in a low-income country like India, where burning of biomass results in lung and heart disease. Assuming that 150 million efficient low-emission household cooking stoves were installed, the authors said: “By 2020, 87 percent of Indian households would have very much cleaner combustion and air”.

The effects of climate change on the Himalayan region.—Internet

Turkey, Costa Rica eye better trade, political ties

ANKARA, 26 Nov—Turkish and Costa Rican leaders said on Wednesday the two countries intend to sign a free trade agreement to boost bilateral economic relations and also enhance political ties, Turkish media reported. Turkish President Abdullah Gul told a joint press conference with his Costa Rican counterpart Oscar Arias that Turkey wants to sign a free trade agreement soon with Costa Rica, which has a sound economy with increasing foreign investment, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

Gul said Turkey has seen great improvement in economic, political, military and cultural ties with Latin American countries, “as part of its multidimensional and comprehensive foreign policy,” according to the report. It said the two countries have signed a memorandum of understanding to establish a political consultation mechanism between their foreign ministries.—Xinhua

US health official warns of increasing flu-linked pneumonia

HOUSTON, 26 Nov—The ongoing A/H1N1 influenza can increase the risk of pneumonia disease among young people, a high-ranking health official from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said on Wednesday.

“We are seeing an increase in serious pneumococcal infections around the country,” Dr Anne Schuchat, director of the CDC’s National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, told a press conference. Citing the latest figures in Denver, Schuchat saw a worrisome rise in the flu-linked bacterial pneumonia outbreak. The figures showed that Denver reported 58 serious cases of pneumococcal pneumonia in October, nearly tripling the five-year average for the same month, which was 20. “Most of that increase has been in adults under the age of 60,” she said.—Xinhua

Indian female labourers carry small pieces of coal deposit from liquid ash generated from a thermal power plant (background) in Kolaghat 75km (45 miles) west from Kolkata. — Internet
**SPORTS**

Man United drop home record, Bayern revive hopes at Champions League

**LONDON,** 26 Nov—Manchester United’s 23-match unbeaten home record in the Champions League came to a sudden halt on Wednesday as the English Premier League outfit lost 1-0 to Turkish side Besiktas. Rodrigo Tello netted the only goal for the Turkish side after 20 minutes with a shot from distance. United had already qualified for the knockout stage but they still need a point from their visit to Wolfsburg, who lost 2-1 to CSKA Moscow, in a fortnight to claim top spot.

“I think we were a bit anxious but it’s not a bad thing, they’re young and you expect that,” said United manager Alex Ferguson, who fielded a largely young side for the match. “It was a stellar performance in terms of the flow of the game and we’ve shown some really good things,” added Ferguson.

Bayern Munich, facing an early Champions League exit, revived their chances of reaching the last 16 as they beat Maccabi Haifa 1-0 and rivals Juventus lost at Girondins Bordeaux, who have qualified for the knockout stage. Bayern will in the next round face Juventus, who collected eight points, one clear of third-placed Bayern. —Xinhua

Anelka clinches Chelsea group win on the nod

**PORTO,** 26 Nov—A second half header from Nicolas Anelka handed Chelsea victory in Champions League Group D on Wednesday, securing a 1-0 win over Porto to clinch top spot. Anelka had been the Portuguese side’s assassin in the opening match in the group and once again the Frenchman made the difference, launching himself to connect with Florent Malouda’s cross from the left after good approach work from Yuri Zhirkov, the Russian making a rare start.

The 69th-minute effort, Anelka’s third goal of the competition this season, left Chelsea as clear group victors with 13 points though Porto had already ensured qualification with the nine points they had racked up beforehand to secure a spot in the last 16. Chelsea skipper John Terry said the win underpinned the English Premiership leaders’ confidence ahead of a tricky weekend match against Arsenal.

**Nadal suffers second consecutive defeat at ATP World Tour Finals**

**LONDON,** 26 Nov—Spaniard Rafael Nadal tasted his second consecutive loss at the ATP World Tour Finals here on Wednesday as the world number two succumbed to Russian Nikolay Davydenko in straight sets.

Nadal, 23, was totally out of pace in the first set, while world number six Davydenko dominated the court to win 6-1. The Spaniard still struggled in the following set but managed to tie the game at 6-6. In the tiebreak, Nadal lost at 7-4.

“To be out of the Finals, that’s sport and everything can happen,” said Nadal. “I didn’t arrive to this tournament with the full confidence that you need to win these matches. And in the moments that I had to play well, I didn’t play well. I made mistakes. I fought a lot. Both matches I tried. I tried my best all the time, but it wasn’t enough to win these matches.”

Nadal on Monday was stunned by Swede Robin Soderling in his first Group B match. —Xinhua

**Champions League last 16 still open for Bayern**

**BERLIN,** 26 Nov—German giants Bayern Munich preserved their chances for Champions League last 16 with an unspectacular 1-0 victory over Macabi Haifa at Allianz-Arena on Wednesday. Thanks to the 2-0 victory for Bordeau against Juventus, Bayern’s hope to advance still keeps alive.

Bayern dominated and controlled the ball from the start, who produced good goal scoring opportunities but failed to score at the first half. Macabi Haifa staged a well-positioned defence to resist Bayern’s attack. After interval, Bayern striker Ivica Olic opened the scoring at the 65minute.

Olympique Marseille’s Senegalese forward and captain Mamadou Niang controls the ball against AC Milan during their UEFA Champions League match at San Siro stadium in Milan. —Internet

**Stalemate gives Milan slight advantage**

**MILAN,** 26 Nov—AC Milan and Marseille drew 1-1 in the Champions League on Wednesday to give the Italians a slight edge in the race for the knock-out stages. With Real Madrid winning 1-0 at home to FC Zurich, they now lead Milan by 16 with an unspectacular 1-0 victory over Macabi Haifa at Allianz-Arena on Wednesday. Thanks to the 2-0 victory for Bordeau against Juventus, Bayern’s hope to advance still keeps alive.

Bayern dominated and controlled the ball from the start, who produced good goal scoring opportunities but failed to score at the first half. Macabi Haifa staged a well-positioned defence to resist Bayern’s attack. After interval, Bayern striker Ivica Olic opened the scoring at the 62nd minute.

Mario Gomez hammered to target but was denied by Ibrahim Kas in the closing stages of Besiktas’ 1-0 win at Old Trafford on Wednesday. The United manager, who has found himself in trouble domestically for criticising match officials this season, is running out of patience after claiming it was the second successive game in Europe that United have been denied a penalty. “That’s two games in a row we’ve

**Ronaldo returns but Real Madrid disappoints again**

**MADRID,** 26 Nov—Three points and the return of Cristiano Ronaldo to action were the Orly positives that Real Madrid’s supporters could draw from their side’s performance in the Santiago Bernabeu on Wednesday night. Gonzalo Higuain’s goal halfway through the first half was all that separated the sides and although Real Madrid needs a disaster in Mar-

**Ferguson annoyed at ref as United’s home run ends**

**MANCHESTER,** 26 Nov—Sir Alex Ferguson claimed his side were denied ‘a stonewall’ penalty by French referee Stephane Lannoy after Manchester United’s long unbeaten home record in Europe was ended by Besiktas. Ferguson was annoyed that Lannoy waved away strong appeals after substitute Patrice Evra was fouled by Ibrahim Kas in the closing stages of Besiktas’ 1-0 win at Old Trafford on Wednesday.

The United manager, who has found himself in trouble domestically for criticising match officials this season, is running out of patience after claiming it was the second successive game in Europe that United have been denied a penalty. “That’s two games in a row we’ve

**Arsenal extend Cameroon player Song’s contract**

**LONDON,** 26 Nov—Arsenal’s Cameroon international midfielder Alex Song has signed a new long-term contract, the Premier League club said on Wednesday.

The 22-year-old, nephew of Cameroon defender Rigobert Song, joined Arsenal from French club Bastia in 2006. He has made 96 appearances for the north London club while helping his country to next year’s World Cup finals.

**Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo (L) controls the ball during the Champions League soccer match against FC Zurich, on 25 Nov, 2009.** Xinhua

**The United manager, who has found himself in trouble domestically for criticising match officials this season, is running out of patience after claiming it was the second successive game in Europe that United have been denied a penalty. “That’s two games in a row we’ve...** Internet
Settled Anelka makes the
difference for Chelsea

LONDON, 26 Nov—
Nicolas Anelka's arrival
at Chelsea in January last
year hardly had the fans
buzzing amid all the big-
money signings since
Russian billionaire owner
Roman Abramovich
transformed the fortunes
of the west London club.
The peripatetic
France striker seemed
like a stop-gap and few
expected him to be part
of Chelsea's long-term
future.
He had just spent 18
months at Bolton
Wanderers after spells at
Fenerbahce, Manchester
City, Liverpool, Paris St
Germain and, following
the best piece of business
in Arsenal's history, Real
Madrid who he joined
for 23 million pounds.
He had just spent 18
months at Bolton
Wanderers after spells at
Fenerbahce, Manchester
City, Liverpool, Paris St
Germain and, following
the best piece of business
in Arsenal's history, Real
Madrid who he joined
for 23 million pounds.

Settled Anelka
last term with 25 and
some excellent displays,
there was always the feeling he was second
fiddle to Didier Drogba.
This season, however, Anelka seems
to have stepped up a
gear and gives the
impression that not only
is he enjoying his football, a rarity for a
man nicknamed 'the incredible sulk', but he
is increasingly the focal
point of Chelsea's attack.
He headed the only
goal on Tuesday in the
Champions League
win at Porto that
secured top spot in
Group D to maintain
his record of vital goals
this season having been
the sole scorer in the
home win over Porto and
1-0 victory at
APOEL Nicosia.

MRTV-3
Programme Schedule
(27-11-2009) (Friday)

Local Transmission
• Signature Tune
• Song of M yanna Beauty & Scenic Sights
• Historic Kaw goo n Cave
• let's Decorate with M yanna Silversmith
• Mand alay Cultural M useum
• Topic on Journal “Discussion on Directives to
  Close Down Thin Plastic Bag Factories”
• M yannar M elody on Screen
• Padaung Village and Elephant Camp
• Song of M yanna Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission
• Signature Tune
• Song of M yanna Beauty & Scenic Sights
• Historic Kaw goo n Cave
• let's Decorate with M yanna Silversmith
• Mand alay Cultural M useum
• Topic on Journal “Discussion on Directives to
  Close Down Thin Plastic Bag Factories”
• M yannar M elody on Screen
• Padaung Village and Elephant Camp
• Song of M yanna Beauty & Scenic Sights

Transmissions Local Times
Local - (09:00am - 10:00am) MST
Europe - (15:30pm - 23:30pm) MST
North America - (23:30pm - 07:00am) MST

WEATHER
Thursday, 26th November, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.
M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly
cloudy in Shan State, Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon and
Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining
States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to
(4°C) above November average temperatures in Eastern
State and Mandalay Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below
November average temperatures in Sagaing, (3°C) below November average temperatures in Kachin, Chin and Rak hine States, lower
Sag aing, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and
about November average temperatures in the remaining
States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures
were L i i n(3°C), H h a k a(6°C), M ind at(7°C), N ams am and
A n(8°C) each, Heho(9°C), P uta o and M a ch an baw(10°C)
each.

Maximum temperature on 25-11-2009 was 91°F.
Minimum temperature on 26-11-2009 was 60°. Relative
humidity at 09:30 hours M ST on 26-11-2009 was 76%.
Total sun shine hours on 25-11-2009 was (8.1) hours
approx.

Rainfall on 26-11-2009 was nil at M ingaladon, at
Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-
2009 was (111.6) inches at M ingaladon, (122.09) inches
at Kaba-Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon.
M aximum wind speed at Y angon( Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph
from Northwest at (16:30) hours M ST on 25-11-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 27th November 2009:
Likelihood of isolated light rain in Taninthayi Division,
weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin and Shan
States, Mandalay and Yangon. Divisions and generally fair
in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty
is(60%).

State of the sea: Sea will be moderate in Myan mar
waters.

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for
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

Positive changes in Seikpyu Township

Byline & Photos: Reporter Singu Soe Win

Recently I made a trip to Seikpyu Township in Magway Division in Central Myanmar. The magnificent Anawrahta Bridge spanning Ayeyawady river lends further elegance to the image of Seikpyu Township. Anawrahta Bridge across Ayeyawady river links Chauk and Seikpyu. Along with the emergence of Anawrahta Bridge, not only Seikpyu Township, but other townships on the west bank of Ayeyawady river have developed in every aspect. The bridge benefits much to local people. I used to cross Ayeyawady river very risky river from Chauk to Seikpyu in a sampan. It was too risky to cross the river in a sampan in a bad weather. Anawrahta Bridge is a RC Type facility which is 1277.4 metres in length and 8.5 metres in width, with 1.8 metres wide pedestrian lanes way. The bridge was inaugurated on 4 May 2000. I was delighted at the emergence of the bridge, gazing at the stunning views of Ayeyawady river on which various kinds of boats and vessels are running up and down. I am sure that local people may the same.

Seikpyu Township is in Pakokku District. The township covers an area of 558.183 square miles or 376,437 acres. A total of 1,779 households reside in the township, with around 8,000 inhabitants in four urban wards and over 123,000 inhabitants in 138 villages from 42 village-tracts.

Tidy and fine road at the entrance to Seikpyu Township in Magway Division.