Today, Nay Pyi Taw is enjoying significant development in all sectors as a result of tremendous efforts the government that is exerting to build more and more infrastructural buildings for the new capital to be able to stand at the international level.

One of the fruits is Planetarium (Nay Pyi Taw) on Yangon-Mandalay Highway, near the Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw) between Nay Pyi Taw Pyinnmana and Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon.

I was recently given an opportunity to visit Planetarium (Nay Pyi Taw). Soon after getting into the Zoological Gardens (Nay Pyi Taw), we were greeted by a modern, artistic dome-shaped building, which is the Planetarium (Nay Pyi Taw).

In front of Planetarium (Nay Pyi Taw) is an artificial waterfall, which makes visitors feel relaxed and refreshed. Planetarium (Nay Pyi Taw) overlooks a natural beauty of the surrounding area. I noticed...

(see page 7)

Chindwin Bridge (Monywa): facilitator for border trade development

Today, the nation has seen a transport network as a result of the efforts the government makes with a sense of goodwill to build roads and bridges. The nation’s better transport has somewhat bridged the development gap between one region and another across the country, and the people have begun to enjoy better economic life.

In the past, the regions on the east bank and on the west bank of the river were not easily accessible from each other in spite of being situated in the same region, stemming from the Chindwin River in Sagaing Division serving as a natural barrier to them.

(See page 7)
PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 29 November, 2009

Participate with patriotism in building peaceful, modern developed nation

The Annual General Meeting (2009) of the Union Solidarity and Development Association took place at the USDA Headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday with the other day, with an address by Patron of the USDA Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe.

The association has been implementing the process for building a new nation hand in hand with the people for 16 years.

The process of building a new nation is now in progress according to the past events, present objective conditions and future prospects. It is the public concern, so the entire people have to take part in the national duty with correct conviction and a sense of patriotism.

Relaying the national duty from one generation to the next calls for improvement of the infrastructures that guarantee perpetuation and sustainable development of the nation. In addition, the successors on their part are to keep in touch with the noble aim to achieve greater improvement, taking advantage of the already-improved infrastructures.

Stability and peace are the focal point of the drive for creating a better future of the nation. Almost all the regions in the nation have begun to enjoy the taste of stability and peace due to the unity of the government, the people and the Tatmadaw, the top priority given to national unity for national development, and the people’s aspiration to stability and peace. In response to and recognition of the common desire, members have to make sustained efforts in the long-term interest of the Union.

The ultimate goal of the entire people is to build a peaceful, modern and developed nation. It is mandatory for the people to uphold the national policy of Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity, and Perpetuation of sovereignty.

The association was formed with those who joined it of their own accord to contribute towards the lofty aim to achieve greater improvement, sacrificing spirit, and consolidated unity of its members.

48th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament 2009 opens

Nay Pyi Taw, 28 Nov—The opening ceremony of the first-stage round robin matches (Tapakha Zone) of the 48th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament 2009 was held at the sports ground of South-West Command on 26 November evening.

Deputy Commander attends opening of Commander-in-Chief’s Shield Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Badminton Tournament

Nay Pyi Taw, 28 Nov—The opening ceremony of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Shield Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Badminton Tournament was held at stadium of South-West Command in Pathein on 23 November. The ceremony was attended by Deputy Commander of South-West Command Brig-Gen Khin Maung Aye, senior military officers, officers and other ranks and their families.

After making an opening speech, the deputy commander enjoyed the opening match.

Computer networking with CCNA course to be conducted

Yangon, 28 Nov—For the development of Myanmar ICT, NetInfo technological training school will conduct computer networking certificate with CCNA course, which is widely-used in the world. CCNA networking certificate is very popular among Myanmar youth due to the facts; that CCNA is essential for those who are studying computer networking, and one has the job opportunities and can as a professional in a short time.

The aims of opening the course are to solve the problems that: not exactly knowing course syllabus; not effectively applying software simulations to be used; being not enough to sit for by learning old questions and having the difficulties in learning CCNA due to the failure to use teaching aids.

The course is suitable to those who are from Universities of Computer Studies, those who are studying and have passed the IDCS and IAD, those who have selected networking as a profession and those who want to work abroad.

The course will start on 2 December and last for three months. Trainees are limited to 20. Interested youth may contact NetInfo technological training school, Ward (2), Room (1), Myanmar Info-Tech, Hlme Township (Ph: 507045 and 652248).

Horizon Street Ball (Basketball) Tournament on 5-6 Dec

Chairman U Myat Thu Win and Secretary U Awee Ya of Shwe Min Tha Foundation (Myanmar) seen at the airport before departure for Japan to attend the UN-ESCAP-Takayama 2009 Congress on the Creation of an Inclusive and Accessible Community in Asia and the Pacific “A Town Easy to Live in is a Town Easy to Visit” Congress to be held in Takayama of Japan from 24 to 26 November. —NLM

80,000 and third prize, K 60,000.

The teams willing to participate in the tourney may register at No. 25 Horizon International Education Centre, Pho Sein Road of Bahan Township (Ph: 543926, 541085, 551795 and 551790) not later than 5 pm, on 1 December. —NLM

NLM
Nine mln young children die worldwide annually

GENEVA, 28 Nov — Near 9 million children worldwide under the age of 5 die every year, officials at the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, said.

Using 2007 figures, WHO officials said about 70 percent of these early child deaths could be prevented by improving living conditions and treatments.

Russia to rearm naval infantry by 2015

MOSCOW, 28 Nov — Russia will fully equip its entire naval infantry with advanced weaponry by 2015, the Navy said on Friday.

“The naval infantry will receive T-90 tanks, BMP-3 infantry fighting vehicles, BRDM-3 armoured personnel carriers, BRDM-3 armoured reconnaissance vehicles, 120-mm 2C31 Vena self-propelled guns, modernized air defence systems and small arms,” the RIA Novosti news agency reported, citing the Navy statement.

As part of the Navy, the naval infantry, which has a total of about 12,000 personnel, consists of three brigades, two independent regiments and two independent battalions.—INTERNET

Governor survives roadside bomb in S Afghanistan, guard wounded

KABUL, 28 Nov — The governor of Afghanistan’s southern province of Kandahar, Toreyali Weesa, survived an attempt on his life but one of his bodyguards sustained injuries as a roadside bomb struck his vehicle on Friday, his spokesman Zalmai Ayubi said.

“The governor was going towards a mosque to offer Eidul Adha prayer but the mine planted by rebels targeted his motorcade, wounding a bodyguard,” Ayubi told newsmen.

Taliban elusive leader Mullah Mohammad in his message on the eve of Eidul Adha, the Muslims’ biggest religious annual festival, rejected any talks with the Afghan government and called on his fighters to intensify attacks against the Afghan and NATO-led troops based in Afghanistan. —Xinhua

UN helicopter attacked in Congo; four wounded

KINSHASA, 28 Nov — The United Nations says at least four of its peacekeepers have been wounded in northern Congo after a UN helicopter was attacked by armed men.

Madhodje Mounoubai, a spokesman for the UN mission in Congo, said the wounded were flown for treatment to neighbouring Republic of Congo after Thursday’s attack. Mounoubai said a small UN unit was deployed to Dungu after fighting started earlier this month between the Enyele and Munzale tribesmen reportedly over farming and fishing rights. More than 100 people have died and more than 50,000 have fled to Brazzaville in the neighbouring small country Republic of Congo. Mounoubai said.—INTERNET

A United Nations peacekeeper from South Africa patrols the Congolese city of Goma in 2008. At least four people were injured aboard a United Nations helicopter when it came under fire in DR Congo in a northwestern region where tribal violence has claimed 100 lives.—INTERNET

Explosion heard in Kabul

KABUL, 28 Nov — A huge explosion was heard in Kabul on Saturday, according to witnesses, but the immediate cause was not known.

The explosion happened around 10:20 am (0550 GMT) and was immediately followed by the sound of sirens as security forces rushed to the scene, apparently in central Kabul.

Afghanistan is marking the Eid-ul-Adha Muslim festival of sacrifice with a four-day holiday.

No government or security officials could be immediately contacted for comment.

An international security company, Hart, sent a circular to clients to say the explosion had happened in the wealthy Wazir Akbar Khan neighbourhood of the city.—INTERNET

Eight militants killed in NW Pakistan’s tribal area

ISLAMABAD, 28 Nov — At least eight militants were killed in the military operation in northwest Pakistan’s Khyber tribal agency on Saturday, local TV channels reported.

According to the Frontier Constabulary (FC) media cell, Pakistani security forces surrounded militants strongholds in Baratibar area, killed eight militants and injured several others during fierce clashes, the private TV Express reported.

The security forces also destroyed an ammunition dump of militants in Bara town. The TV said that heavy exchange of fire between security men and militants continues in the tribal region.

Pakistan army started the operation in Baratibar in Khyber near the Afghan border on Tuesday as they are conducting military operations in neighboring tribal areas after they controlled major militants bases in South Waziristan. —Xinhua

INTERNET

In this 3 Dec, 2008 file photo workers walk by a line of pipe-laying cranes carrying gas pipes prior to a connection ceremony of a new pipeline between Ukhta and Bovanenkovo in Ukhta, in Russia’s northern Yamal Peninsula, about 1300 kilometres (800 miles) northeast of Moscow, where Russian state-run natural gas giant Gazprom started works at new prospective gas field.—INTERNET

An Afghan girl touches her mother’s artificial leg at the ICRC Ali Abad Orthopaedic centre in Kabul in this 12 Nov, 2009 file photo. Throughout Afghanistan’s tumultuous history, warring factions have changed and frontlines have shifted, leaving the country littered with landmines and little mapping system to locate them.—INTERNET
India’s Tata Motors swings to quarterly profit

MUMBAI, 28 Nov—India’s leading vehicle company, Tata Motors, reported a quarterly profit on Friday it had swung to a consolidated quarterly net profit, helped by a better performance by its premium car marques Jaguar and Land Rover.

Tata Motors’ net profit, including British motor icons Jaguar and Land Rover, totalled 217.8 million rupees (4.65 million dollars) for the quarter ending September, compared to a net loss of 9.41 billion rupees a year earlier. Revenues fell 8.2 percent to 211 billion rupees for the second quarter of the financial year to March 2010, a company statement said.

Volkswagen Brazil eyes $3.5-b investment

SAO PAULO, 28 Nov—Volkswagen’s Brazilian affiliate on Thursday announced plans to spend 3.5 billion dollars by 2014 to boost capacity and develop new products in Latin America’s biggest market.

“The firm said the cash would maintain Volkswagen’s “growth trajectory in Brazil for the coming years,” adding that the 2010-2014 investment would focus on increasing production capacity.

This year, we will grow significantly in Brazil,” said Thomas Schmall, president of Volkswagen Brazil. “Our aim is to sell a million cars each year through 2014, which will give a significant boost” to overall company success, he said.

Schmall said 28 new products would be introduced in Brazil by the end of 2010.

Poland shipyard sale falls through again

WARSAW, 28 Nov—Poland on Friday said it had again failed to sell off two struggling shipyards, after receiving tenders for only a slice of what was on offer, three months after a deal with Qatari investors fell through.

The Polish treasury said that it had been able to attract buyers for just a 10.5-million-zloty (2.5-million-euro, 3.8-million-dollar) share of the 119 million zloty assets of the yard at Szczecin in the north-west.

The sale of another yard, at Gdynia in the north, was more successful but still a disappointment — only 90 million zloty of its 300-million-zloty value found buyers.

The treasury now plans to organize an auction for the unsold assets.

Neither yard is set to continue producing ships.

The shipbuilding sector has had deep historical significance for Poles as the cradle of protests against the Communist old order in the 1970s and 1980s. In 2005, the European Commission, which polices competition rules in the 27-nation European Union, launched a probe of Polish state aid for the yards and eventually ruled that it had been used illegally to keep them in business.

In November 2008 Poland was ordered to either sell them or wind them up.

Oil falls 2.5 percent on Dubai default worries

NEW YORK, 28 Nov—Oil prices settled down more than 2 percent at about $76 a barrel on Friday as fears of possible defaults in Dubai convulsed financial markets and boosted safe-haven demand for the US dollar.

US crude for January delivery fell $1.91 to $76.05 a barrel, 2.5 percent below Wednesday’s settlement. US markets were closed on Thursday for the Thanksgiving holiday.

London Brent crude rose 19 cents to $77.18 from Thursday’s settlement price.

Crude oil markets have looked to wider macro-economic data and equities markets for signs of an economic recovery that could lift oil demand.

Dubai has asked for a debt standstill on tens of billions of dollars as part of a restructuring, sparking debt default fears that could hit other parts of the global economy and derail a fledgling recovery from 2008’s financial crisis.

“This is a similar reaction to last year’s Lehman Brothers debacle, it shakes confidence in financial markets and raises the specter of contagion which could trigger a second wave in the credit crisis,” Mike Fitzpatrick, vice president at MF Global in New York, said in a Friday research note.

Major US indexes dropped after markets opened on Friday, the NASDAQ (IXIC) falling 1.73 percent and the S&P 500 down 19.14 points, or 1.72 percent to 1,091.49. Investors began seeking refuge in government bonds.

Zimbabwe, S Africa sign investment protection deal

HARARE, 28 Nov—Zimbabwe and South Africa signed a bilateral investment agreement on Friday which would protect investments made by nationals of both countries in each other’s territory.

The Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPPA), was signed in the capital by trade ministers from both countries.

“We want this BIPPA between our two countries to work,” said Elton Mangoma, Zimbabwe’s Trade Minister, said after the signing ceremony.

In 2000, at the height of the controversial land reform programme in Zimbabwe, most South African businesses were affected and lost their investments.

The agreement means that South African-owned businesses will be protected with effect from September last year when the Global Political Agreement was signed. — Internet

Picture of the Spanish Repsol YPF gas and oil refinery in Rio Grande, 80 km from Santa Cruz, Bolivia in 2006. Spanish oil company Repsol YPF will invest 1.5 million dollars over the next five years to boost natural gas production in Bolivia, the company announced on Thursday.— Internet

Poland

A map of Poland locating shipyards of Gdansk, Gdynia and Szczecin. Poland on Friday said it had again failed to sell off two struggling shipyards, after receiving tenders for only a slice of what was on offer, three months after a deal with Qatari investors fell through.— Internet

INTERNET

INTERNET

INTERNET
Indonesia loses 1.1 mln hectares of forest each year

JAKARTA, 28 Nov—The deforestation in Indonesia takes up to 1.1 million hectares each year, while the government is only able to restore 50,000 acres each year, a local media reported here on Saturday.

Speaking in South Kalimantan Province’s capital city of Banjarmasin on Friday, the Environmental Affairs Minister Gusti Muhammad Hatta said that should such a condition continue to occur, it would endanger 30 to 40 million people around the country living around the devastated forests.

“Smog from the forest fire, extreme climate change, flood, landslide and other disasters are among risks taken by those living around the devastated forest,” Gusti was quoted by the Kompas.com as saying.

He added that the heat that comes up from the rampant forest fire in Indonesia has increased temperature up to four degrees, raising the sea level up to 80 centimetres.

“Regarding that fact, I call on all people across the country to plant trees, at least one person for one tree. This is an essential attempt to slow down the pace of climate change impacts,” Gusti said.

Gusti pointed out that Indonesia’s future would depend on the efforts to preserve the forest, not the price of woods taken out from the forest.

Three dead, four injured in cargo plane crash in Shanghai Pudong Airport

SHANGHAI, 28 Nov—Three staff have died and four others were injured after a cargo plane caught fire at the Shanghai Pudong Airport on Saturday, local officials said.

The plane, registered cargo plane has crashed outside of Pudong International Airport on 28 Nov 2009 in Shanghai, China. The official Xinhua News Agency says the crash occurred at 7:40 am on Saturday (2340 GMT Friday).

Military Police officers march as rescue workers and fire fighters near the scene of a Zimbabwe-registered cargo plane has crashed outside of Pudong International Airport on 28 Nov 2009 in Shanghai, China. The official Xinhua News Agency says the crash occurred at 7:40 am on Saturday (2340 GMT Friday).

Nepal faces more natural disasters due to climate change

KATHMANDU, 28 Nov—Due to climate change, Nepal has been witnessing gradual decline in agricultural production, increase in natural disasters, lack of water resources including decline of bio-diversities and others, the National News Agency RSS reported on Saturday.

According to a study done by the Environment Ministry, over 40 glacial lakes are in danger of bursting in the country.

Three staff have died and four others were injured after a cargo plane caught fire at the Shanghai Pudong Airport on Saturday.

According to the Xinhua News Agency, the crash occurred at 7:40 am, when the plane veered off the runway before it took off, they said.

All the seven foreign staff were rushed to the People’s Hospital of Pudong New Area, where three of dead and one is in serious condition as of 11:00 am.

The blaze was put out at about 9:00 am, rescuers said.

The plane, SJM 324, was registered at Zimbabwe. It was scheduled to fly from Shanghai to Bishkek, capital of Kyrgyzstan.

Brazillian smokers number 24.6 million

RIO DE JANEIRO, 28 Nov—About 24.6 million Brazilians aged 15 and up are smokers, accounting for 17.2 percent of the population in this age group, according to a study released on Friday by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE).

Additionally, 26 million Brazilians or 18.2 percent of the population declared to be former smokers.

According to the IBGE, 33.9 percent of cigarette smokers consume 15 to 24 cigarettes a day, and about 51.2 percent of all smokers in the country said they want to quit the habit.

In terms of sex ratio, 21.6 percent of Brazilian men aged 15 and up smoke, while there are 13.1 percent female smokers in this age group. 22.7 percent of the smokers in the country are aged from 45 to 64 while 18.3 percent of smokers are aged from 25 to 44.

The region with the highest percentage of smokers, or 19 percent, is the south, where over 90 percent of the tobacco plantations in the country are located.

The mid-western region registered the lowest percentage of smokers, or 16.6 percent.
Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan agree on Customs bloc

MINSK, 28 Nov — The presidents of Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus reached a deal on Friday to create a Customs union among their three ex-Soviet states from 1 July next year.

“This is a very significant and long-awaited decision, resulting from difficult negotiations,” Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said, quoted by Russian news agencies in the Belarussian capital.

“The switch to a joint economic zone is a completely new economic format,” he said, adding that the customs bloc would be open to other members in the future.

“From 1 July the single Customs union will start to function on the territory of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan,” Belarussian President Alexander Lukashenko said.

He added the three leaders will meet next in the Kazakh city of Almaty on 18 December to hammer out a timeline for setting in place common tariffs and launching the Customs union.

Russia’s First Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov said the accord marked the start of difficult talks, which would result in the three states relinquishing decision-making power to a “supranational body”.

Abbas thanks Venezuela for supporting Palestinians

CARACAS, 28 Nov — Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas thanked Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez for supporting the creation of a future Palestinian state as he rounded out a five-nation tour of Latin America.

The Palestinian leader also issued a warning to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who announced 10-month restrictions on building in West Bank settlements on Wednesday.

“Netanyahu stopped the negotiations. We cannot restart them without a commitment from both sides to respect the obligations of the roadmap,” a US-backed 2003 Middle East peace plan that calls for a Palestinian state living side by side with Israel, Abbas said.

The roadmap, which remains the basis for negotiations between the two sides, demands that the Jewish state freeze all settlement construction.

Spain sets limits on heating, air conditioners in public spaces

MADRID, 28 Nov — The Spanish government approved on Friday a decree that sets limits on the temperature that air conditioners and heaters can be set to in public spaces such as bars, offices and airports in a bid to reduce energy consumption.

Under the new rules temperatures in public spaces should not exceed 21 degrees Celsius (70 Fahrenheit) in winter and should not go below 26 degrees Celsius (79 Fahrenheit) during the summer, the government said in a statement. The decree also requires that all enclosed spaces must have a system in place to ensure that their doors shut to prevent cool or warm air from escaping.

The measure is one of 31 which the government intends to put in place by 2011 as part of its energy efficiency strategy.

Heavy drinkers exercise to burn off alcohol

More than a quarter of drinkers in England who exercise regularly do so in an attempt to make up for binging on alcohol, according to a survey published recently.

A total of 28 percent exercise in an attempt to burn off alcohol and one in five drink more than double the safe amounts recommended by doctors, the poll found.

Experts warned that while exercise can help with weight loss and keep the heart healthy, it would not counteract the effects of excessive alcohol consumption, such as liver cancer, mouth cancer and strokes.

The poll of more than 2,400 adults in England found that 19 percent who take regular exercise and drink alcohol admit to guiltily visiting the gym or the swimming pool after a heavy night out.

The figure rose to 28 percent among heavier drinkers.

Kids should get moving to avoid obesity

Vigorous exercise may be an especially good way to keep kids lean, but sitting around, in and of itself, doesn’t appear to have a major role in making them fat, new research shows.

Nevertheless, there are still plenty of reasons to avoid too much sedentary “screen time,” Dr Ulf Ekeland of the MRC Epidemiology Unit in Cambridge, UK and colleagues say, given potential negatives including “violence and aggressive behaviour, poor academic performance, and poor body image.”

To help tease out the role of time spent in different types of activity in making children fat, independent of screen time and otherwise being a couch potato, Ekeland and his team looked at 1,862 children 9 to 10 years old, 23 percent of whom were overweight or obese.

Using a wristwatch-like device to measure the amount and intensity of activity children get throughout the day, the researchers looked for associations between this activity and children’s waist size, amount of body fat, and body mass index (BMI). Kids also reported how much time they spent watching TV or using a computer.

Jobs, economics complicate Brazil’s Amazon fight

NOVO PROGRESSO, 28 Nov — Drawing his 40-caliber pistol, Severiano Pontes dashes across the steaming, muddy jungle floor, a hunch telling him what he would find around a bend. The thick Amazon rain-forest canopy suddenly opens to a clearing where massive Jatobas and other hardwood trees have been reduced to 40 waist-high trunks lying on the ground. Fires set to help clear the underbrush still smolder nearby, sending sinewy gray smoke columns into the sea-blue sky.

Pontes and his environmental agents patrol the Amazon to prevent illegal clearing, part of Brazil’s new, aggressive effort to preserve a jungle the size of the US west of the Mississippi River. The government says such teams are the main reason that deforestation has slowed this year to its lowest level in two decades.

Darwin book worth up to $100,000 found on shelf

A first edition of Charles Darwin’s “On the Origin of Species,” which had been kept in a toilet bookcase for years, will go on sale this week and is expected to fetch $66,000 (660,000)

Christie’s auctioneer will offer the book, the 150th anniversary of its original publication.

The copy was bought by the family of the current owners for “a few shil-

ings” in the late 1960s or early 1970s, the auctioneer said.

They only recognized that they owned such a valuable edition when they recognized a picture of the spine of another first edition of the work at a Darwin exhibition.

A jogger. More than a quarter of drinkers in England who exercise regularly do so in an attempt to make up for binging on alcohol, according to a survey.

An 8-metre long, 100 million years old Spinosaurus dinosaur is seen during a presentation at an auction room in Paris November 27, 2009. The dinosaurs are part of a collection of fossils, minerals and paleontological specimens to be auctioned in the French capital on 1 and 2 December.

In this 15 Sept, 2009 photo, cattle walk near a burning area near Novo Progresso in Brazil’s northern state of Para. The Brazilian Amazon is arguably the world’s biggest natural defense against global warming, acting as a ‘sink,’ or absorber, of carbon dioxide. But it is also a great contributor to warming. About 75 percent of Brazil’s emissions come from rainforest clearing, as vegetation burns and felled trees rot.
Chindwin Bridge (Monywa): facilitator for border trade development

Byline: Aye Thandar Thein & Mya Kay Khaing Soe; Photos: Myanma Alin

(from page 1)

Such avoidable transport problems are no more, following the launch of Chindwin Bridge (Monywa) on 7 April 2003. Lying on Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa Road, Chindwin Bridge (Monywa) occupies a strategic position. Its main bridge is 2745.6 feet long, and its two approach bridges, 1984.6 feet long, totalling 4730.2 feet. It can withstand 60 tons of loads.

Having inaugurated, Chindwin Bridge (Monywa) can contribute not only to easy access from Monywa to Kalewa-Kalay-Tamu, Kalay-Haka and Kalay-Tindam in a short time but also to swift commodity flow for border trade with neighbouring countries.

Translation: ZZZ

(Myanma Alin: 27-11-2009)
Work Coord meeting for 2009 of Ministry of Construction held

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Nov — The coordination meeting for 2009 of Ministry of Construction was held at the hall of the ministry, here, on 25 and 26 November. Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint gave an opening speech.

Next, the superintending engineers from states and divisions reported to the minister on construction of roads, bridges, buildings and airports in their own regions. Next, engineers in-charge from five special project groups, 16 director gave supplementary reports. Later, Deputy Minister U Tin Swe gave supplementary report on roadwork and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Myint Thein on matters related to office works to the minister.

After that, Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint called for timely completion with set standards, minimizing loss and waste and worksite safety.

More antiques excavated in Pinle Myohaung

Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint addresses 2009 Work Coordination Meeting.

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Basic education level proficiency course opened

NAV PHTAW, 28 Nov—The basic education level proficiency course for English and Mathematics subjects was opened at the multi-purpose hall of Taunggyi University, Shan State on 25 November morning. Member-1 of Shan State Peace and Development Council Police Col Win Naing made a speech. Rector and Dr Mu Myint of Taunggyi University explained the purpose of opening course. Afterwards, Shan State Education Officer U Hla Win, Dean of English Department Professor Daw Khin Sein and Professor U Than Htay, Dean of Mathematics Department explained the rules and teaching programmes of the courses.

Altogether 420 SATs from basic education schools in Shan State are attending the course that lasts from 25 November to 4 December. —MNA

UMFCCI to open Advanced Course on Arbitration and Mediation Procedure

YANGON, 28 Nov—Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will conduct Advanced Course on Arbitration and Mediation Procedure (WIPO, Worldwide Academy, DL-317) at the training hall of UMFCCI Office Tower in Lanmadaw Township from 27 December 2009 to 28 February 2010.

Those who have completed high school education are entitled to attend the course designed to have only 50 seats. The applications may be submitted not later than 26 December. The UMFCCI will present the certificates to those who complete the course and those who passed online exam of WIPO will also get the certificate from WIPO, Worldwide Academy. Dial ph: from 214344 to 2143439 for further information.—MNA

Pathein, glory of Ayeyawady Division

Byline & Photos: Ko Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)

Executive Officer
U Soe Win explains efforts for beautifying Pathein.

In addition to construction of roads in urban areas, the township DAC has built gravel and earth roads in rural areas. The splendid triple lake in city centre enhances the magnificence of Pathein Township. The statue of General Maha Bandoola in Bandoola park reflects the patriotic fervour of Myanmar people. The night of Pathein is under the bright lights of sodium lamp posts on traffic island along Maha Bandoola Street. Pathein Township DAC in compliance with the slogan that says “Towns and villages must develop at a great pace”, has been making strenuous efforts for building up Pathein into the major town of Ayeyawady Division.

Translation: TKK

Myanma Alin (22-11-2009)

Well-cut elephant shaped floral bush at the entrance to Pathein.
Traces of explosives at Russian train site

UGLOVKA (Russia), 28 Nov—Russian news agencies are reporting that investigators have found traces of explosives among the wreckage of a train that derailed, killing at least 26 people.

The reported discovery appears to buttress initial fears that the deadly derailed on the Moscow-St. Petersburg line Friday night was a terrorist attack caused by a bomb planted on the tracks.

The Interfax and RIA Novosti news agencies cite Federal Security Service chief Alexander Borotnikov as saying on Saturday that a home-made bomb equivalent to 7 kilogrammes of TNT had detonated, derailing the express train on Friday night.

The death toll is still unclear. The Health Ministry says 26 people were killed but prosecutors say at least 30. Dozens of people have been reported injured.

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Stop sale of stolen medal

SHIMLA, 28 Nov—With just four days left before the “stolen” George Cross medal goes under the hammer in London, the Himachal Pradesh police in a bid to expedite efforts to stop the auction has contacted the Scotland Yard and also the auction house there.

“We have sent an e-mail to the Dix Noonan Webb, the auction house where the medal is listed for sale on 2 December and also established contacts with the Scotland police to prevent the auction of the medal bestowed to Himachal-born Naik Kirpa Ram for bravery in 1946,” Additional Director General of Police (CID) I D Bhandari told PTI today.

He said on their request, the CBI has already approached the Interpol to prevent the sale of stolen medal with an estimated price of 20,000 British pounds (Rs 50 lakh).—Internet

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Sensex, Nifty hits recent lows, down by over two pc

MUMBAI, 28 Nov—Markets fell by more than 2 pc cent breaking a string of three-week rally after the key indices Sensex and Nifty hit recent lows on heightened worries that Dubai’s debt crisis may impact adversely the financial system.

The bellwether Sensex plunged to a three-week intraday low of 16,210.44 points on Friday as global markets were rattled by Dubai problem, raising fears about the capital outflows and corporate exposure.

Eventually, the market bounced to end just above the 16,600 strong support level, propelled by a massive salvage operation from domestic institutional investors.

The Bombay Stock Exchange 30-share barometer settled at at 16,632.01 points on Friday, down 389.84 points or 2.29 per cent from last weekend’s close.

Similarly, the National Stock Exchange’s Nifty also ended below 5,000 level at 4,941.75, netting a loss of 110.70 points or 2.19 per cent from its previous weekend’s close.—Internet

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Indian journalist stopped at White House gates

WASHINGTON, 28 Nov—A senior Indian journalist, who was part of the media delegation that accompanied Prime Minister Manmohan Singh during his recent US visit, was not allowed to enter the White House for covering Singh-Obama meeting.

Azaiz Burney, editor of Urdu daily Rashtriya Sahara, said though his travel documents were in order the “special treatment” came because he has a Muslim name.

Neither the Indian Embassy in Washington, nor the White House commented on it when approached by PTI about it.

However, it is learnt that the Indian Embassy has raised the issue with US officials concerned. It is believed that the White House is also looking into the episode.

About 90 Indian journalists, including those who had come with the Prime Minister, were present for the joint press conference by Singh and President Barack Obama on 24 November. Burney said while others were allowed to enter, he was told to wait.—Internet

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Tobacco Kills
First flight for delayed A400M next month

PARIS, 28 Nov — Airbus’ long-delayed A400M military transport will make its first test flight during the week beginning 7 December, “weather permitting,” the European planemaker said on Friday.

The A400M was to replace ageing military cargo carriers in several European air forces but its development has been dogged by a series of serious technical problems and its in service date has been pushed from 2009 to 2013.

Some governments have begun to tire of waiting for Airbus to resolve the issues, and French and German officials have given the firm until the end of the year to prove that the project remains viable.

“Ground tests of the first A400M are progressing satisfactorily at our facility,” said Airbus military chairman and managing director Domingo Urena. When the 20-billion-euro (28-billion-dollar) A400M project began it was hoped that a first test flight would be held in 2008 and that air forces would have had the airframe in service by the end of this year.

There is now little hope that the first production models will be delivered by 2012 and none is expected on the world’s battlefield airstrips until 2013. The delays have cost millions and forced Airbus to renegotiate its contracts with several customers. South Africa has dropped its order entirely and Britain has mulled switching is business to US manufacturers. —Internet

Rare plant uses camouflage

CAMBRIDGE, 28 Nov — A rare woodland plant, Monotropsis odorata, uses camouflage to hide from predators in much the way some animals do, scientists in Massachusetts said.

The plant, found throughout the southeastern United States, is able to blend in, allowing it to survive longer and more easily pass along its genes to the next generation, Harvard botanist Matthew Klooster writes in the December issue of the American Journal of Botany.

Monotropsis odorata relies exclusively upon mycorrhizal fungus via its roots for all the resources it needs to live.

A child suffering from malnutrition sits on his mother’s lap at a camp for Internally Displaced People (IDP) on the outskirts of Mogadishu in May 2009. —INTERNET

Somali health sector underfunded

GENEVA, 28 Nov — A senior WHO official warned on Friday that the health sector in Somalia was not receiving the funding needed, even though almost one in four Somali children under five is suffering from acute malnutrition.

“The health sector is completely underfunded,” said Eric Laroche, who is WHO assistant director general of the cluster on health action in crises.

“This year is probably all of the 18 last years of humanitarian crises the worst year and for the time being in health, it’s the worst funded for all the activities. This is not normal at all,” he added.

Somalia has one of the worst child and maternal health in the world, with a under five mortality rate of 142 per 1,000 children, according to WHO data.

Maternal mortality is also “extremely high,” said the WHO, as 1,400 mothers die in every 100,000 births.

Some 39 million dollars is required to fund the health sector in Somalia, but almost a month before the end of the year, only 37 percent of the sum has been received, said Laroche.

In 2008, 55 million dollars in funding was sought, and 44 percent covered.

The humanitarian situation in Somalia has deteriorated sharply in 2009 amid fighting in Mogadishu and other parts of south-central Somalia. —INTERNET

Bangladesh ferry capsizes at dock; 37 dead

DHAKA (Bangladesh), 28 Nov — A triple-deck ferry packed with hundreds of travelers heading home for an Islamic festival capsized as they disembarked in southern Bangladesh, leaving at least 37 dead and scores missing, authorities said on Saturday.

M/V Coco, traveling from the capital Dhaka, went down late Friday as it arrived at Nazirhat town in the coastal district of Bholu, 64 miles (104 kilometers) to the south. Some survivors said the boat hit a river shoal as it approached the terminal, breaking the hull and allowing water in. As passengers scrambled to disembark, the vessel then tipped and partially sank in the Tetulia River.

The ferry was crowded with people heading home to celebrate the Eid al-Adha festival, but it is unclear how many were on board.

Dhaka’s private ETV television station said the ferry was carrying more than 1,500 people but many had already disembarked when the vessel went down.

The official presentation of the Airbus A400M military aircraft in Seville, 2008. Airbus’ long-delayed A400M military transport will make its first test flight during the week beginning on 7 December, “weather permitting”, the European planemaker said on Friday.—INTERNET
Japan launches fifth spy satellite

Tokyo, 28 Nov—Japan launched its fifth spy satellite into orbit on Saturday in a bid to boost its ability to independently gather intelligence, the government said.

The domestically developed H-2A rocket carrying the $65 million satellite lifted off from a space centre on the southern island of Tanegashima, said Hisashi Michigami, an official at the Cabinet Office.

“The satellite will gather intelligence for our defence and diplomatic purposes,” Michigami said. “We hope to upgrade our ability to gather intelligence on our own. Intelligence gathering is vital to our national security,” Michigami said the launch was successful.

Michigami said Japan has three working spy satellites. The fourth spy satellite became unresponsive in 2007 due to apparent electrical problems. Each spy satellite will last around five years, he said.

Japan has long been one of the world’s leading space-faring nations, having launched its first satellite in 1970. But it has been struggling to get out from under China’s shadow in recent years.

Suicide attack kills three Afghan policemen

Kabul, 28 Nov—Three policemen were killed as a suicide bomber targeted a police checkpoint in Farah Province, in west Afghanistan, on Friday, provincial governor Rohul Amin Amini said.

“A suicide bomber driving an explosive-laden car blew it up next to a police checkpoint in Balablock District this morning, killing three policemen on duty,” Amini told Xinhua. The attack took place while the people were going to offer Eidul Adha prayer.

President Hamid Karzai once again in his speech on Eidul Adha urged Taliban militants to lay down arms and resume their normal life.

Tiger Woods suffers facial cuts in car crash

Miami, 28 Nov—Tiger Woods suffered facial injuries in a single vehicle car smash outside his Florida mansion in which his wife had to use a golf club to break a window of their SUV and rescue him.

Woods was treated and released from a Florida hospital for cuts and bruises to his face and nose following the accident outside his luxury home, the Florida Health Central Hospital said in a statement.

“Tiger Woods was in a minor car accident outside his home last night. He was admitted, treated and released today in good condition,” the hospital said. The golfer also issued the same statement on his website adding, “We appreciate very much everyone’s thoughts and well wishes.”

The Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) said Woods, 33, crashed into a fire hydrant and then drove into a nearby tree after leaving his property early on Friday in the affluent community near Windermere, a suburb of Orlando.

The accident happened at around 2:25 am, FHP spokeswoman Kim Montes told AFP. The FHP had said earlier Woods was transported to the hospital in “serious condition.” Windermere Mayor Gary Bruhn told CNN that Woods suffered “facial lacerations” in the accident.
**Virus mutation spreads as swine flu deaths leap**

**PARIS, 28 Nov—**Swine flu virus mutations are spreading in Europe, French health officials said on Friday as the World Health Organization reported a leap in deaths from the disease by more than 1,000 in a week.

Two patients who were infected by a mutation that was also recently detected in Norway have died in France, the government’s Health Surveillance Institute (InVS) said in a statement.

“This mutation could increase the ability of the virus to affect the respiratory tract and, in particular, lung tissue,” said a statement from “For one of these patients, this mutation was accompanied by another mutation known to confer resistance to oseltamivir,” it added, referring to the main drug being used to treat swine flu, under the brand name Tamiflu.

The case was the first drug-resistant strain found in France among the 1,200 strains experts have analysed here, the InVS said, adding that “the effectiveness of vaccines currently available is not being questioned.”

The two patients were not related and had been hospitalized in two different cities in France, it said.

The WHO said on Friday that the death toll had reached at least 7,826 worldwide since the A(H1N1) flu virus was first uncovered in April.

**Some with HIV have better quality of life**

**CINCINNATI, 28 Nov—**Some patients with human immunodeficiency virus experience an improved quality of life following their diagnosis, US researchers found.

Dr Joel Tsevat of the University of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centre and colleagues conducted two sets of interviews and completed chart reviews of 347 HIV outpatients from three US cities from 2002-2004.

“In two interviews, conducted a year to 18 months apart, patients compared their current life with life before being diagnosed with HIV—we found that many patients said their life is better than it was before their diagnosis, although results of such comparisons often change over time,” Tsevat, the principal investigator, said in a statement.

The first interview showed that 31 percent of the patients said their lives were better after diagnosis, while 28 percent said they were worse, and the remainder—140 patients—said their lives were about the same or that they were undecided.

**Women who smoke risk having seizures**

**NEW YORK, 28 Nov—**Women who smoke may have a higher risk of developing seizures than non-smokers do, a new study suggests.

Researchers found that among more than 100,000 US women in a long-running health study, current smokers were between two and three times more likely than non-smokers to suffer a seizure over 16 years.

Current smokers did not clearly show a higher risk of developing epilepsy, a disorder marked by recurrent seizures that are not provoked by a specific cause, such as a reaction to a drug.

However, epilepsy risk was somewhat elevated among former smokers, who had a 46 percent higher risk than women who had never smoked.

Dr Barbara Dworetzky and colleagues at Harvard Medical School and Brigham & Women’s Hospital in Boston report the findings in the journal Epilepsia.

Seizures arise from an episode of abnormal electrical activity in the brain—with symptoms ranging from a brief staring “spell” or change in vision or sensations in the skin to convulsions and loss of consciousness. Epilepsy is diagnosed when a person suffers at least two unprovoked seizures.

**Soy may fight colon cancer**

**OAKLAND, 28 Nov—**A new class of agents found in soy may prevent or even treat cancer, US scientists suggest.

Study leader Dr Julie Saba of California’s Children’s Hospital Oakland Research Institute said the agents—naturally occurring lipid molecules called sphingadienes—may be responsible for the soy plant’s reputation for helping to protect against colon cancer.

The study, published in Cancer Research, looked at the fruit fly—an organism used to study the genetics of human disease—found elevated levels of these lipids actually induced the death of mutant cells in the fly.

The sphingadienes help induce cell death—a process the body uses to be rid of unhealthy or mutant cells like cancer cells, Saba said.

“It’s very exciting,” Saba says in a statement. “First, we are encouraged to find a natural molecule that could be consumed through soy products as a strategy to help prevent colon cancer.

Second, this information is important because we can build on our understanding of the structure and metabolism of sphingadienes in terms of developing new drugs to treat people who already have colon cancer.”

**China set for second lunar probe**

**BEIJING, 28 Nov—**The Chinese space scientist who designed the country’s first lunar probe says the second probe is set for October of next year, he told the China Daily.

Ye Peijian said the second lunar orbiter, Chang’e-2, will carry different payloads and orbit the moon in a different way, the report said. China launched its first lunar mission in 2007 by successfully placing its unmanned Chang’e-1 probe into lunar orbit.

“It will orbit 100 km (62 miles) closer to the moon and be equipped with better facilities,” Ye told the newspaper. “We expect to acquire more scientific data about the moon with increased accuracy.”

The report said Chang’e-2, once a backup for Chang’e-1, has now been upgraded for its new mission with a charge-coupled device camera on board, which will have a far higher resolution than the one on China’s first lunar probe.

Ye also said China’s lunar-lander and rover, Chang’e-3, is currently in the prototype stage and its launch is expected by 2013.
**Djokovic beats ailing Nadal to keep ATP semi-final hopes alive**

**London**, 28 Nov—Novak Djokovic kept alive his hopes of reaching the last four of the ATP World Tour Finals as the defending champion defeated Rafael Nadal 7-6 (7/5), 6-3 on Friday.

With Sweden’s Robin Soderling already through from Group B and Nadal out after successive defeats, Djokovic is competing with Nikolay Davydenko for the last semi-final spot at the prestigious season finale.

Djokovic already knew his fate was out of his hands as even this victory over Nadal won’t be enough to qualify him if Davydenko beats Soderling later on Friday at London’s O2 Arena.

**Inter and Juve looking for Euro bounce back**

**Rome**, 28 Nov—Having been humbled in midweek by the best team in Europe, the best team in Italy will be looking to bounce back this weekend.

Inter Milan were given a lesson on Tuesday by a Barcelona team that still proved superior despite missing star forwards Lionel Messi and Zlatan Ibrahimovic.

Barcelona’s midfielder Andres Iniesta takes part in a training session at Ciutat Esportiva Joan Gamper, near Barcelona. Iniesta on Friday extended his current contract with the Spanish champions by one year to 2015, according to the club.—Internet

**Buoyant Bayern hunt victory at emotional Hanover**

**Berlin**, 28 Nov—Bayern Munich striker Ivica Olic warned the German giants will use their midweek Champions League success to boost their flagging confidence in a highly-emotional Bundesliga game at Hanover on Sunday.

Despite their 1-0 win over Maccabi Haifa on Wednesday in Europe, Bayern are seventh in the Bundesliga table and six points behind league leaders Bayer Leverkusen who host struggling Stuttgart on Sunday.

But Bayern’s game promises to be an emotional afternoon at Hanover in the home side’s first match since captain and goalkeeper Robert Enke committed suicide on 10 November.—Internet

**Aguero staying at Atletico**

**Madrid**, 28 Nov—Atletico Madrid ace Sergio Aguero has ruled out a move away from the club in the New Year.

Chelsea have been strongly linked with a move for the highly-rated forward when the transfer window opens in January.

Aguero’s future at Atletico has been the subject of intense speculation for some time with a host of Europe’s top clubs credited with an interest in his services.

However, the Argentine international has rejected the rumours and pledged to stay at Atletico. —Internet

**Davydenko clinches final semis berth**

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Before the day’s play began, Davydenko knew a victory over Soderling would be enough to guarantee his place in the last four at London’s O2 Arena. Novak Djokovic’s win against Rafael Nadal earlier on Friday kept the pressure on, but the Russian’s fate remained firmly in his own hands.

He completed the job with a battling display in a match of the highest quality to ensure he qualified from Group B at the expense of Djokovic, who had beaten him in last year’s final.

**Iniesta to stay in Barca through 2015**

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**European high flyers Bordeaux target domestic bliss**

**Paris**, 28 Nov—Bordeaux, buoyed by book- ing top spot in their Champions League group with a midweek defeat of Juventus, will be out to follow up the good work on the domestic front this weekend against Nancy.

Laurent Blanc’s defending French titleholders lost the league lead with a surprise slip-up at home to Valenciennes last weekend which opened the door to Auxerre to go clear by one point.

But Bordeaux will fancy their chances of regaining top spot in their group, will be out to follow up the good work on the domestic front this weekend against Nancy.—Internet

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**Madrid**, 28 Nov—Andres Iniesta is going to stay in Barca through 2015 after he agreed to a one-year contract extension at the European champions.

The 25-year-old Spain international also saw his buy-out clause rise to 200 million euros.

Iniesta says his dream is to retire at Barcelona. Iniesta has helped Barcelona win nine trophies since his debut in 2002, including Champions League, Spanish league and Copa del Rey titles last year.—Xinhua

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Three Americans die in cargo plane crash in China

SHANGHAI, 28 NOV — A cargo plane crashed as it took off from Shanghai’s main airport Saturday, killing three American crew members and injuring four other employees after it veered off the runway and burst into flames. Three Americans on the seven-member crew died and a fourth American was injured, US Embassy spokesman Richard Buangan told The Associated Press. He did not know the injured person’s condition.

Shanghai television showed what it called a 61-year-old American co-pilot in a hospital bed, conscious and saying “Thank you” to staff and officials. The TV report said the other crew were from Indonesia, Belgium and Zimbabwe. The aircraft’s tail struck the ground on takeoff, China Central Television reported.

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.

M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Chin, Shan and Rakhine States, Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Ayeawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

Night temperatures were (3 °C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in Kachin, Northern Shan, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, lower Sagaing, Bago and Mandalay Divisions. Night temperatures were (3 °C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Loiilem and Haka (2°C) each, Namlsam and Mogok (6°C) each, Lashio and Mindat and An (8°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 27-11-2009 was 92°F. Minimum temperature on 28-11-2009 was 59°F. Relative humidity at (99:30) hours MST on 28-11-2009 was 76%. Total sun shine hours on 27-11-2009 was (8.8) hours approx.

Rainfall on 28-11-2009 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 North at (9:30) hours MST on 28-11-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 29th November 2009:
Weather will be generally fair in the whole country.
State of the sea: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 29-11-2009: Generally fair weather.
Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 29-11-2009: Generally 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

Pathein, glory of Ayeyawady Division

I was aboard Shanmalay express bus running along Yangon-Pathein road. On either side of the road were green and lush paddy fields stretching endlessly. There was an endless stream of vehicles on the road, some from Pathen, and some from Yangon.

In the past, waterway had been the only mode of transportation between Yangon and Pathen. With

Bo Myat Tun Bridge having emerged in 2001, the region had access to motorway and consequently, Pathein, Maubin, Nyaungdon and Pantanaw townships in Ayeyawady Division have seen a substantial increase in transaction of such local products as paddy, fish, prawn and marine products.

Apart from paddy fields, I had also seen fish breeding ponds along Pathein-Yangon road. I was captivated by the stunning view of the township at the entrance to Pathen. At the junction in downtown Pathen is glittering statue of Mother Myanmar which is surrounded by statues of farmer, worker, soldier, intellectual and technician. The statue adds impressive image to splendour of Pathen Township. The statues with slogan under it that reads “The strength of the nation lies within.” reveals the strength of Union.

Pathein is designated as the major town of Ayeyawady Division. There are 15 urban wards and seven markets running under the supervision of the township Development Affairs Committee in Pathen. The township DAC has adopted systematic waste disposal system to ensure cleanliness of the markets.

Drains with two feet each in width and depth were dug on either side of downtown roads for proper flow of water. Maha Bandoola Street, one of the streets in city centre is adorned with a beautiful modern clock tower. Most of the streets in the township have been upgraded into turreted ones.

Pathein township DAC, to ensure smooth transportation, has constructed urban and rural bridges.