Established 1914

Volume XVII, Number 229                                            Fullmoon Day of Nadaw 1371 ME                       Tuesday, 1 December, 2009

Four political objectives
* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, 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

Hsenwi, pleasant town in Shan State (North) Byline & Photos: Tin Htway (MNA)

I left Lashio about 9 a.m. by car. Although it was in the mid-September, the sky was blue without any clouds. Lashio is about 32 miles from Hsenwi. I saw thriving corn plantations on either side of the road. Natural bamboo groves were thriving on hillside and mountain side and every view was green and pleasant. There is an inspection camp located about five miles from Hsenwi and about 27 miles from Lashio. It was named as Hot spring inspection camp under the name of Hot spring village as there was the hot spring. The hot spring inspection camp was opened to ensure swift and smooth border trade. Trucks and passenger cars stop there for a break. So, the place was boisterous with food stalls. Over 500 vehicles from both directions passed the place daily. Concrete bridge and Myoul lotus lake with the mountain on the background can be seen at the entrance to Hsenwi.

The name of the town was Weinkyae when it was established. (See page 8)

Wakadoke Supporting Dam in Bago Township contributing to monsoon and summer paddy Article: Maung Maung Kyaw; Photos: Zaw Min Tun

Having learnt that Wakadoke Dam is located near Taungset-in Village in Bago Township, Bago Division, I went right to the dam and noted down what I would like to know. Although the dam is supplying water to 1200 acres of farmlands in Bago Division, its task is huge. The irrigation water from supporting dam directly flows to Moeyongyi Lake for greening of 30-mile-radius of Yangon and its environs. Despite being a small dam in structure, its capacity is very great. Making better use of the facility, the local farmers from Bago Division are now able to grow three million acres of monsoon paddy and 300,000 acres of summer paddy. The Wakadoke Dam is supplying irrigation water to the villages of Thanatpin and Thongwa regions. (See page 8)
PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 1 December, 2009

Actively cooperate in the fight against AIDS

World AIDS Day is marked in world countries every year with the aim of enabling government departments, social organizations and the people, including HIV-positive patients, in the fight against AIDS and in the health care services.

Myanmar is trying to fight the pandemic as a national movement. In 1989, Anti-AIDS Central Committee was formed with the personnel of the Ministry of Health and related ministries and social organizations in accord with the directives of the National Health Committee.

AIDS poses a grave threat to the whole mankind and, to stop the spread of the disease, there is no other way but prevention. Transmission of the disease is directly or indirectly related to socially unacceptable behaviour.

The government is fighting AIDS with the use of manpower and financial power. It spent K 191.4 million in 2007 in fighting the disease. UNAIDS officially announced that AIDS cases in Myanmar dropped from 0.94 percent in 2000 to 0.67 percent in 2007.

In commemoration of World AIDS Day, essay and cartoon contests are being held as a health education programme. And it is necessary to organize the people to cooperate in preventive measures through youths with health awareness.

According to this year’s motto for World AIDS Day “Avoid Stigma & Discrimination: Access to Services for Everyone”, we would like to call on the entire national people to cooperate, with national outlook, in the fight against AIDS, the threat to the entire mankind.

Sarpay Beikman Book Association distributes its 54th book

NAV PYI TAW, 30 Nov—Sarpay Beikman Book Association under the Printing and Publishing Enterprise today launched the distribution of the first prize-winning work (Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award (Short Story)) “How Tenacious Are You Fisherman? and Collected Stories” by Maung Cheint, to its members. Yangon members may draw a copy each at its bookshop. Yangon members may draw a copy each at its bookshop. And it is necessary to organize the people to cooperate in preventive measures through youths with health awareness.

According to this year’s motto for World AIDS Day “Avoid Stigma & Discrimination: Access to Services for Everyone”, we would like to call on the entire national people to cooperate, with national outlook, in the fight against AIDS, the threat to the entire mankind.

All this needs to be known

* Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
* Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
* Do not be softened whenever approached

Northern Command Commander’s Shield Shooting Contest held

NAV PYI TAW, 30 Nov—The prize presentation ceremony of Northern Command Commander’s Shield Shooting Contest was held at the shooting range of station training school near Pyithaungsu Village in Myitkyina at 8 am on 25 November. It was attended by Deputy Commander of Northern Command Brig-Gen San Tun, on behalf of the Commander of the command, senior military officers, commanding officers of regiments and units, officials, Tatmadawmen, their families, referees, contestants and guests. The deputy commander and officials presented prizes to the winners.—MNA

Refresher Course for Assistant Engineers commences

NAV PYI TAW, 30 Nov—Minister for Electric Power No (1) Col Zaw Min addressed the opening of a refresher course for assistant engineers at the training school of hydropower development (Paunglaung), under the ministry this morning.

The 5-week course is being attended by 30 Assistant Engineers: 14 AEs (Mechanical) and 16 AEs (Electrical) from the power plants under the Hydropower Department.

Course on International Law for officials opened


It was attended by Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister U Maung Myint gave an opening speech. Resident Representative Mr Bishow B Parajuli of the UNDP and General Manager Mr Nicolas Terraz of Total Myanmar Company gave an account on efforts for conducting the course. Next, Associate Director Ms Isabel Hubert explained purposes of the course. The curriculum includes such subjects as international law on environmental conservation, international law on humanitarian issues, international marine law, organizational structure of international human rights and its main agreements, international law on refugees, international trade law, multi-national trading system and negotiations.

The course started today and will conclude on 11 December.—MNA

All this needs to be known

* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Deputy Minister U Maung Myint addresses opening ceremony of a course on International Law for officials.—MNA

People’s Desire

* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy
* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State

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Four police officers killed in “ambush” shootings in US state of Washington

SAN FRANCISCO, 30 Nov—Four police officers were shot and killed at a coffee shop in the US state of Washington on Sunday morning in what seemed to be a “targeted attack,” local media reported. Reports said that the officers were shot to death at a Forza coffee shop in a region dozens of miles south of Seattle. According to a report by The Seattle Times newspaper, the Forza coffee shop is in a strip mall across the street from McChord Air Force Base and at a crossroads between Parkland and Lakewood, with a mix of residences and industrial businesses.

The officers were all from the Lakewood Police Department and they made up one patrol unit including a sergeant. The four officers — three male and one female — were in full uniform and wearing bulletproof vests and were preparing for their shift when a suspect or suspects “walked in with a handgun, opened fire multiple times and then fled the scene,” Ed Troyer, Pierce County Sheriff’s spokesman, was quoted by local KING-TV station assaying.

Troyer called the shootings an “ambush,” adding that investigators believed the officers were targeted, and it was not a robbery. “They had marked police cars, marked uniforms, there were other people inside the facility, they weren’t shot, wounded or hurt or even aimed at, just the police officers were,” said Troyer. “We hopefully will have answers, but there is nothing more we can tell you,” Troyer said.

Authorities have offered a reward of 10,000 US dollars for information leading to an arrest. MNA/Xinhua

Police recover bodies of two children in N Afghanistan

KABUL, 30 Nov — Police in the northern Samangan Province of Afghanistan found bodies of two children, a private television channel reported on Monday.

“Police found bodies of two children who went missing four days ago in Samangan’s provincial capital Abak,” Tolo broadcast in its news bulletin. Both the innocent kids, aged 8 and 12 respectively, had been killed by stoning and stick, police said.

Children in war-torn Afghanistan have been facing enormous problems including falling victims on attacks by militants, caught in crossfire, losing parents in conflicts, forced marriages and forced labour. Xinhua

Treat HIV patients sooner

London, 30 Nov—People infected with the virus that causes AIDS should start treatment earlier than currently recommended, the World Health Organization said on Monday.

The UN agency issued new guidance advising doctors to start giving patients AIDS drugs a year or two earlier than usual. The advice could double the number of people worldwide who qualify for treatment, adding an extra 3 to 5 million patients to the 5 million already ready awaiting AIDS drugs.

WHO’s previous HIV treatment advice was published in 2006. Since then, several studies have shown people with HIV who start drugs earlier than recommended have a better chance of surviving.

WHO now advises doctors to start HIV patients on drugs when their level of CD4 cells — a measure of the immune system — is about 350. Previously they said doctors should wait until patients’ levels hovered around 200. In most Western countries, doctors start treating HIV patients sooner when their CD4 count is about 500.

David Ho, an AIDS expert at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, said there is compelling evidence people with HIV who aren’t on AIDS drugs are more likely to catch a potentially fatal disease like tuberculosis or develop other complications when they do start the drugs.

Iran allocates $20 m to challenge Western human rights abuse

Tehran, 30 Nov — Iran’s lawmakers on Sunday allocated 20 million US dollars to confront what they call “gross violations of human rights” by Britain and the United States, the English language satellite Press TV reported.

In a bill passed on Sunday, Iran’s parliament (Majlis) earmarked 20 million dollars from Iran’s Oil Stabilization Fund to investigate human rights abuse by the United States and British government, the report said. The bill aims to counter the rising tide of the US and British plots against Iran and also to raise world awareness about the numerous cases of human rights abuse by Britain and the United States, according to the report. According to Press TV, the money will also be used to finance the efforts of human rights organizations and other groups to investigate the US and British violations of international humanitarian laws.

But the report did not say which organizations would receive the fund. Iran has constantly accused Western powers of earmarking funds to stir up protests against the country and its way of dealing with human rights. The United States and Britain have previously rejected Iran’s accusations.

US soldier dies of noncombat injuries in Iraq

Baghdad, 30 Nov—The US military says an American soldier in Iraq has died of injuries unrelated to combat. The military says the soldier was assigned to the Multi-National Division-South, which operates south of Baghdad. It says the soldier died on Sunday and an investigation is under way.

The death raises to at least 4,366 the number of US military personnel who have died in Iraq since the war began in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.
Motorcycle sales gain traction in Cambodia after slow year

PHNOM PENH, 30 Nov—Motorcycle dealers in the capital Phnom Penh say sales have finally started to pick up following this year’s downturn prompted by the global economic crisis, as buyers spend money generated in the provinces on upgrading to new models that have recently entered the market for 2010, local media reported on Monday.

Kim Chhay, one of the many dealers who operate on Phnom Penh’s Sihanouk Boulevard, was quoted by the Phnom Penh Post as saying that sales had risen between 10 and 20 percent since October “due to demand for new models” of brands including Honda, which he said had recently launched its 2010 range.

Having seen sales plummet from more than 100 units a month to between 30 to 40 during the first 10 months of 2009, he said sales have climbed. “Now we’re selling around 60 motorbikes per month.”—Xinhua

Indonesia targets tax to GDP ratio in 2014 at 14 pct

JAKARTA, 30 Nov — Indonesia plans to increase the tax-to-GDP ratio to 14 percent in 2014, from 13.3 percent at present supported by improving economic growth and stronger regulatory enforcement, the finance ministry said here on Monday.

Indonesian Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati was quoted by Bisnis Indonesia as saying that the tax revenue would be more dominant in contributing to the state revenue in the coming years.

Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono who was re-elected on 8 July for his second term had pledged to boost the economic growth more than 7 percent at the end of his tenure in 2014. Minister Mulyani said that the government would step up law enforcement in taxation and to boost tariff harmonization.—Xinhua

Message on World AIDS Day

On 1 December 2009

The world is seeing signs of progress in reversing the AIDS epidemic in some countries. Investments in the AIDS response are producing results and saving lives. At the same time, in global terms new infections are outpacing the gains achieved in putting people on treatment, and AIDS remains one of the leading causes of premature death globally.

On World AIDS Day this year, our challenge is clear: we must continue doing what works, but we must also do more, on an urgent basis, to uphold our commitment to reach universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010.

This goal can be achieved only if we shine the full light of human rights on HIV. That means countering any form of HIV-related stigma and discrimination. It means eliminating violence against women and girls. It means ensuring access to HIV information and services.

I urge all countries to remove punitive laws, policies and practices that hamper the AIDS response, including travel restrictions against people living with HIV. Successful AIDS responses do not punish people; they protect them.

In many countries, legal frameworks institutionalize discrimination against groups most at risk. Yet discrimination against sex workers, drug users and men who have sex with men only fuels the epidemic and prevents cost-effective interventions. We must ensure that AIDS responses are based on evidence, not ideology, and reach those most in need and most affected.

People living with HIV can be powerful role models in guiding us to better approaches to prevention, health and human dignity. We must recognize their contributions and promote their active participation in all aspects of the AIDS response.

On this World AIDS Day, let us uphold the human rights of all people living with HIV, people at risk of infection, and children and families affected by the epidemic. Let us, especially at this time of economic crisis, use the AIDS response to generate progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. Most of all, let us act now.—UNICEF

United Nations Secretary-General’s

Message on World AIDS Day

The new light of Myanmar Tuesday, 1 December, 2009

"Nanjing-style" development pays off

BEIJING, 30 Nov — Located at the centre of China’s Yangtze River Delta zone and renowned as major economic engines in eastern China, Nanjing has played a remarkable role as one of China’s fastest-growing commercial centres in recent years.

Since China’s adoption of its reform and opening-up policies in 1978, the city, the provincial capital of Jiangsu Province, has established a wide-ranging, all-encompassing development programme that embodies a unique “Nanjing-style”.

The city has become one of the most successful centres for attracting foreign investment. It has established stable trading relationships with more than 200 countries and regions across the world, achieving an annual trade volume in excess of $40 billion.

With the global economic downturn widely seen as coming to an end, Nanjing is now planning its “after-the-crisis” business development programme.

This is part of a bid to better exploit the city’s advantages in terms of industrial resources and geographical benefits, as well as to create additional points of economic growth.—Xinhua

Mideast markets face selling pressure

DUBAI, 30 Nov — While Asian and Western markets were hit badly by an announcement of state firm Dubai World that it might delay debt repayments, experts said Middle East markets are expected to post losses during the first week of December, as they were closed from Thursday on.

As the four-day Islamic feast of Eid al-Adha will last till Sunday, markets in the Gulf countries will reopen on Monday.

Last Wednesday, Dubai World and its subsidiary Nakheel said they will ask creditors for a six-month debt standstill, until 30 May of 2010.

“Expect major selling pressure at the Dubai Financial Market (DFM).” Fahd Iqbal, vice president of equity research at the Arab investment bank EFG Hermes in Dubai, told Xinhua on Saturday.

Nakheel has an outstanding sukuk (Islamic bond), whose par value is 3.52 billion US dollars that expires on 14 Dec. Xinhua

ACrobats from China National Acrobatic Troupe perform at Symphony Space Theater in New York, on 28 Nov, 2009. The Art Beijing 2009 evening gala with strong Chinese style was held here on Saturday. Xinhua

The hi-tech Jiangning Modern science Technology park. Xinhua

An Emirati man talks on his mobile phone beside a man watching screens for the latest changes of stocks at the Dubai Financial Market in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on 30 Nov, 2009. Dubai’s main stock exchange dropped more than 7 percent and Abu Dhabi markets slid more than 8 percent on the first day of trading since officials went public with the city-state’s huge debt crisis.—INTERNET
Commonwealth wraps up summit, climate change on top agenda

PORT OF SPAIN, 30 Nov—The Commonwealth of Nations wrapped up a summit meeting dominated by climate change on Sunday in Port of Spain, capital of Trinidad and Tobago, which was notable for the appearance of leaders from outside the organization.

The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) brought together 51 representatives from member states most of which were former British colonies.

It also attracted leaders active on the climate change arena, including UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, French President Nicolas Sarkozy and Danish Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen whose country is to host the UN climate meeting in December.

In a statement released after the three-day summit meeting, the leaders threw weight behind the negotiation process for a global climate change agreement at the Copenhagen meeting next month.

They also welcomed the initiative to start a Copenhagen Launch Fund, which is proposed by Britain and France and will spend 10 billion US dollars battling climate change each year in the next three years. However, Guyanan President Bharrat Jagdeo warned that the fund could only be considered a first step since economists have estimated that over 300 billion dollars will be spent in fighting climate change by 2020.—Xinhua

Moderate quake hits Philippines

HONG KONG, 30 Nov—An earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale hit Mindanao, the Philippines at 2:15 am local time (1815 GMT), according to a bulletin released by the Hong Kong Observatory on Monday.

The epicenter was initially determined to be at 5.3 degrees north latitude and 126.3 east longitude, about 220 kilometers south-southeast of Davao, the Philippines.—Xinhua

5.1 magnitude earthquake hits New Zealand’s North Island

WELLINGTON, 30 Nov—An earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale hit New Zealand’s North Island early on Monday, and there were no reports of casualties or damage, the GNS Science said.

The tremor occurred at 1:42 am on Monday local time (12:42 GMT Sunday), centered 10 km west of Waipukurau, Hawke’s Bay, at a depth of 70 km, the New Zealand Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences reported.

It said the quake was felt throughout the lower North Island.—Xinhua

UN chief stresses importance of creating Palestinian State

UNITED NATIONS, 30 Nov—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Sunday expressed concern over the deadlock in Israeli-Palestinian talks and stressed the importance of creating the right conditions for the two sides to build sufficient mutual trust to resume negotiations.

“It is vital that a sovereign State of Palestine is achieved,” the UN chief said in a message marking the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, which is observed annually on 29 Nov.

“This should be on the basis of the 1967 lines with agreed land swaps and a just and agreed solution to the refugee issue — a State that lives side-by-side in peace with Israel within secure and recognized borders,” Ban said.—Xinhua

Bird’s Nest snow festival to woo winter sports fans

BEIJING, 30 Nov—The Bird’s Nest may have been built for last year’s Summer Games but Beijing’s stunning Olympic stadium will soon be targeting fans of winter sports.

As temperatures have begun to drop in recent weeks, so too has the number of visitors to the 80,000-seater venue, which cost 3.6 billion yuan ($527 million) to build.

And, fearing another harsh winter, National Stadium Co Ltd, which owns the Bird’s Nest, yesterday unveiled ambitious plans to spend 50 million yuan on a spectacular “snow festival”.

From 19 Dec, visitors will be able to pay 120 yuan to enjoy skiing and snowboarding, among other things, on its newly constructed slopes.

The stadium owners expect to attract more than 20,000 visitors a day - twice as many as it currently does - during the two-month festival, which will include countdown events for both the Western and Chinese new years.—Xinhua
Iran holds counter-quake drill in school

TEHERAN, 30 Nov — Iran on Sunday held drills in a Teheran school simulating earthquake occurrence in the country. With the participation of the Interior Minister Mostafa Mohammad-Najjar and Education Minister Hamid-Reza Hajibabaie, the maneuver was held in one of the female guidance schools in northeast Teheran.

The students practiced the ways to survive in instances of earthquake and learned to help others both inside and outside the classroom. They learned how to put off the fire with extinguishers and helped their injured classmates with first aids. The emergency team, both the volunteer students and civil workers, also contributed to the survival exercises.

“Some schools are currently being built throughout the country... (and) during the past four years we have reconstructed most of the country’s schools against earthquakes... We can say that within the next five years, schools nationwide will be even fortified (against quakes),” said Education Minister Hajibabaie.

Four militants killed, over 70 arrested in northwest Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 30 Nov — At least four militants were killed in a military operation in northwest Pakistan’s tribal areas on Monday, local TV channels reported.

According to the Frontier Constabulary (FC) media cell, Pakistani security forces surrounded militant strongholds at Barain Khbyer tribal agency, four militants killed and several others injured during clashes, the private TV channel reported.

Sources said 67 suspects were arrested in Bara and another five militants were apprehended during the search operation at Palai in Swat District.

Meanwhile, large cache of arms and ammunition have been seized in the nearby Ozarkai as the army advanced to take control of more towns in the tribal agency, said the FC sources.

Spanish trawler attacked by pirates

MADRID, 30 Nov — Pirates attacked a Spanish fishing vessel on Sunday in the Indian Ocean with small arms and a rocket-propelled grenade but private security guards aboard the ship drove them off with gunfire, officials said.

The attempted hijacking came less than two weeks after another Spanish trawler, the Alakrana, was released by Somali pirates who had held it and its crew of 36 for nearly seven weeks and received $3.3 million in ransom, according to a self-described pirate.

On Sunday, two skiffs chased the Spanish ship Ortube Berria for about 30 minutes before security guards stationed on it opened fire and fended them off, the Spanish Defence Ministry said.

None of the ship’s crew members were hurt during the attack, about 265 miles (430 kilometres) southwest of the Seychelles Islands, the statement said.

Chimps enjoy a good tune, too

Love of music is universal among people, but when did that taste evolve? Do other primates share our preference for consonant rather than dissonant chords?

Cotton-top tamarins do not, according to past research. Our closest cousins, chimpanzees, had never been tested, however—until now.

It’s hard for researchers to find a subject of any species that has never been exposed to music (we like it so much we blast it everywhere, nowadays). But Kazuhide Hashiya of Kyushu University in Fukuoka, Japan, learned of one such rarity living at a zoological park. A seventeen-week-old female chimp named Sakura, rejected by her mother, had been reared by humans away from radio, TV, CD players, and other music sources.

Hashiya, graduate student Tasuko Sugimoto, and several colleagues gave Sakura a string to pull that enabled her to replay classical minuets after hearing bits of them. Some of the minuets they’d made dissonant by computer—for example, by changing all the G notes to G-flat. Sakura replayed the original, consonant versions 55 percent more often than their dissonant alterations.

Fla man reunited with missing monkey

A 25-year-old Florida man said state wildlife officials were able to locate his pet monkey, which disappeared during preparations for a move.

Daniel Alamary said his 1-year-old marmoset named Simon vanished as he was preparing to move from Hollywood to Fort Lauderdale. Alamary told the South Florida Sun-Sentinel the monkey was found Friday by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officers.

Alamary said an unidentified man trapped and sold Simon after the animal’s disappearance on Wednesday, but the wildlife officers were able to convince the individual to tell them who purchased the monkey from him.

“The officers basically told him he’d be in a lot of trouble if he didn’t say how he got that monkey, so he just told them everything,” Alamary said.

While state wildlife officers would not offer details of the recovery of the missing monkey, Alamary told the Sun-Sentinel he is simply happy to have his primate friend home.

Spain says trawler attacked by pirates

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British military base in Cyprus downgraded

NICOSIA, 30 Nov — Britain is reported to be downgrading one of its two military bases in Cyprus, for security and economy reasons, according to state-run Cyprus Broadcasting Station (CYBC).

Usually well-informed CYBC said on Sunday that several hundred troops stationed at the Dekelia base near the southeast city of Larnaca were flown back to Britain and a smaller number were relocated to the other British base at Akrotiri, about 120 kilometres to the west.

It quoted both British military sources in Cyprus and “competent services” of the Cyprus government as saying that only a small number of personnel were kept at the base to keep watch on the place and run essential services, such as electronic surveillance installations.

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The 9th month of Myanmar Calendar which normally coincides with December, the second month of the Hindu calendar is Nattaw. It is pronounced Na-daw. It is the month for holding festival for nat spirits. Nat is a Pali derivative. Nata, a Pali word meaning a resplendent being worthy of veneration. Tav implies royal or respectable.

Nattaw’s early mornings are misty and chilly due to northerly breeze. In Myanmar zodiacal circle, this month is called “Dhama” [Sagittarius] with the symbol of an archer. At night an asterism of three stars in the design of a deer’s head called “Migahi” shines astride with the moon. The cold breeze wafts soft fragrance of Thazin orchid [Bulbo phyllum auricomm].

Because of Myanmar Tradition of religious toleration both pre and post Buddhist faiths co-exist with Buddhism. The well-known Thirty seven Nats of Myanmar pantheon, the oldest of which is still found in the inner precinct of Shwezigon Pagoda in Bagan, belong to post-Buddhist belief systems. Unlike gods, goddesses and deities of ancient Greeks or Hindus, Myanmar thirty seven nats were heroes or national figures of Myanmar history. They were human beings—kings, queens, ministers, commanders, soldiers, merchants, gallant fighters who had served for national cause, but because of their violent death became nat-spirits. By the order of the king, they were given places to reside, and they as nat-spirits gave benvolences to the king, his country and people by providing protection from all dangers and enemies, showering blessings and fulfilling human wishes.

Min Maha Giri brother and sister nat spirits the most senior in the thirty seven order after Sakka Deva were given the great Mt Popa Range to reside by king Tharlygyaung [344-387 of AD] of Bagan. Before they became nat spirits, the elder brother Maung Tin Dei was a mighty blacksmith and his younger sisters of Tagaung city. When they were burnt alive under a champe tree, they became nat spirits dwelling at that tree. They came with it when it was uprooted and floated down the river. At Bagan, the king cut the tree into two representing them and set them up on the summit of Mt Popa which the king gave them to reside. Annual festival was held in the month of Nattaw to propitiate them. Two idols of them can still be seen in the shrines at the entrance of old Tharaba Gate of old Bagan. They are believed to be protecting the city, as well as any household where a green coconut with white and red ribbons and flowers is hung on the main post of the house to honour them. So Nattaw originally was the month of nat-spirits festival.

In late Toungoo dynasty Min Mahagiri nats festival was replaced by Maha Peinhne festival. King Tin Shwe of Bagan, his brother-in-law and successor King Bayint Naung founded the second Myanmar Union. They adopted Mon culture into court ceremonies and festivals. Ramanyadesa or lower Myanmar came into contact with Hindu Brahmanic culture much earlier than Bagan.

Ganesha worship and festival was adopted in lower Myanmar. It is believed that Ganesha showers special blessing upon his worshippers such as might, power, health, longevity, prosperity, good rain and good harvest, peace and protection from all dangers and enemies — the kind of favours and blessings which the ruling class covet most. Therefore Hindu Brahamic god Ganesha was adopted as Myanmar nat and gave him Myanmar name “Maha Peinhne” whose festival was held annually in Nattaw.

In Loka Byuhar Kyan [A Treatise on court ceremonies and festivals] compiled by Thiri Uzana, the minister of Inyone, in Inwa period, Maha Peinhne festival of Nattaw was described as follows:

“In the season of Nattaw, the traditional festival of Maha Peinhne takes place. On the 13th waxing moon of Nattaw the Image of Maha Peinhne Nat, housed in the pavilion in the precinct of Shwezigon Pagoda was given puja.”

One Myanmar saign (musical ensemble) and tamers. Stockades of thick teak trunks were built in the residence of the city, as well as any household where a green be seen in the shrines at the entrance of old Tharaba city, as well as any household where a green beings—kings, queens, ministers, commanders, soldiers, merchants, gallant fighters who had served for national cause, but because of their violent death became nat-spirits. By the order of the king, they were given places to reside, and they as nat-spirits gave benvolences to the king, his country and people by providing protection from all dangers and enemies, showering blessings and fulfilling human wishes.

Min Maha Giri brother and sister nat spirits the most senior in the thirty seven order after Sakka Deva were given the great Mt Popa Range to reside by king Tharlygyaung [344-387 of AD] of Bagan. Before they became nat spirits, the elder brother Maung Tin Dei was a mighty blacksmith and his younger sisters of Tagaung city. When they were burnt alive under a champe tree, they became nat spirits dwelling at that tree. They came with it when it was uprooted and floated down the river. At Bagan, the king cut the tree into two representing them and set them up on the summit of Mt Popa which the king gave them to reside. Annual festival was held in the month of Nattaw to propitiate them. Two idols of them can still be seen in the shrines at the entrance of old Tharaba Gate of old Bagan. They are believed to be protecting the city, as well as any household where a green coconut with white and red ribbons and flowers is hung on the main post of the house to honour them. So Nattaw originally was the month of nat-spirits festival.

In late Toungoo dynasty Min Mahagiri nats festival was replaced by Maha Peinhne festival. King Tin Shwe of Bagan, his brother-in-law and successor King Bayint Naung founded the second Myanmar Union. They adopted Mon culture into court ceremonies and festivals. Ramanyadesa or lower Myanmar came into contact with Hindu Brahmanic culture much earlier than Bagan.

In Nattaw, Maha Peinhne Image was carried on a coach to the palace to be worshipped by Their Majesties. On the first waxing moon, the Image made a round of the houses of princes, princesses, and ministers to receive their homage and offerings.

Eight Brahmin priests, each facing a cardinal direction incanted “mantras”, invoking Maha Peinhne Nat and praying for his blessings and favours. Then they offered fruits, flowers, perfume, milk, butter, sweets and drinking water. Entertainments followed creating a festive atmosphere for the public.

We learn from Myanmar chronicles that till the reign of the last Myanmar King Thibaw, Maha Peinhne Nat festival was annually held in Nattaw in accordance with the precedent, procedure and tradition. Today in Myanmar, there are Maha Peinhne temples in some cities and towns built and maintained by Hindu communities. During the festival they are visited by people of other Faiths also.

Nattaw had two other festivals — the festival of trapping and taming wild elephants and the festival of conferring titles and giving awards. Myanmar history and literature have reference to these two festivals. Trapping and taming wild elephants for human services was an important skilful profession as well as a princely pastime. Myanmar kings were fond of elephant catching and taming. Kings Tin Shwe and Princ Min Ye Kyaw Swa were noted elephant catchers and tamers. Stockades of thick teak trunks were built near elephant stables. Wild elephants, caught by using tamed female elephants as decoys were driven into the stockades and trapped into a strongly built keddah where they were trained. Ceremonies were held and festivities followed when such activities took place.

At the palace, the king convened a special audience to honour those who had literary achievements and those who had performed military exploits. It was called “Hpyin Htat Mingala Pwe” literally meaning the ceremony of conferring titles and awarding hpyin clothes and gowns. Men of letters and men of might were honoured by the king by giving them promotion, title, dress, gown, clothes, insignia, gift, land, house, tief or special favour or prilivelege.

The Sarosdaw festival [Writers’ Day] in Nattaw originated in 1944. A group of literati headed by Dr Ba Han assembled at Kungyangon town for holding a commemorative event of a famous Myanmar playwright, U Ponnya of Late Konbaung Period. On the 13th waxing moon of Kasone (June) of that year U Ponnya Day was held, paving way for the emergence of Sarsodaw Day and literary festival. On the second waning of that month of the same year, U Hla Min the then Minister for Education, Health and Municipality held a meeting of eleven literacy figures to choose a day for honouring men of letters. Due to the request of U Chit Maung proposed the first waxing moon day of Nattaw be designated Writers’ Day, in keeping with the Myanmar tradition of honouring men of letters and men of might every year in Myanmar kings. With unanimous agreement, the first waxing moon day of Nattaw was chosen “Writers’ Day” which was celebrated at the Myang Theatre at Kandawgyi Lake, Bahan, Yangon. Veteran writers and schoolmasters gave talks by turn, on Myanmar writers of historic fame such as Ananda Thureya, Shin Maha Thay Thaya, Shin Maha Thay Thaya, Nat Shin Naung, Latwei Thondara, U Paw U, Ma Mya Galay, Hlaing Hteik Khhaung Tin, U Ponnya, and Achoke Tan Saye Pe. Since then Myanmar Writers’ Day has been held without fail every year in Nattaw.

After Myanmar regained independence, Writers’ Day has become the Day of National Literature, celebrated on national scale. The Government provides financial support and facilities. The Ministry of Information, Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association and Sarpay Beikman hold the ceremony of honouring the winners of National Literary Awards by Minister of Information, Awards include cash and certificates. Veteran writers and journalists of 80 years old and above are paid homage and presented cash and gifts by Minister of Information and young generations of writers, journalists and media men. This year altogether 131 veteran writers and journalists will be paid homage at the Town Hall of Yangon.

Since 1993, private and N.G.Os join the Government in honouring writers and journalists, such as Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Fund, Sayawun Tin Shwe Literary Fund, Htan Foundation Literary Fund and Thuta Swezone Literary Fund. They donate cash not only for literary awards but also provide financial aid to outstanding students in Myanmar literature as well as for social causes. Writers and journalists are invited by township writers and journalists associations to give talks on Myanmar literature history and culture to the public. Seminars and discussions are held for dissemination of knowledge of history, literature and culture. Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association has the programme of mutual exchange of media men, writers and journalists between ASEAN, neighbouring and friendly countries.

Nattaw celebrates both traditional and modern festivals.
Hsenwi, pleasant town in Shan State (North)

Byline & Photos: Tin Htway (MNA)

(Hsenwi Township, which is situated in Lashio District of Shan State (North), shares borders with Kutkai Township in the north, Kunlong Township in the east, Lashio Township in the south and Namtu Township in the west. It has an area of 472.89 square miles. Hsenwi Township is formed with four wards and 32 village-tracts. A total of 49,684 people populate in the township. It is located 2100 feet above sea level and a plain area amidst mountains.

Hsenwi Township has tropical climate with 50 inches of average rainfall annually. The main creeks flowing in the township are Namtu, Namle and Namtsalat creeks. Those creeks stream into the Namtu creek from the east to west.

There are 27 tributaries streaming into the Namtu creek. Water resources from Namtu creek, branches, rain water, three lakes, one natural pond and 22 dams were used for agriculture purpose. Teak, chestnut, sweet chestnut, jacquertz, Cassia Siamea and Magnolia and mango trees, jack fruit trees, guava trees, banana trees, lichee, green tea trees, orange plants, lichee, green tea trees, guava trees, banana and mango trees, jack fruit and the like are grown.

The wildlife animals that can be seen in the township are tiger, bear, deer, muntjac, chamois, wild boar, monkey, pangolin, jungle fowl, snake, rabbit, common moorhen, Naungmo lotus lake or MyoU lotus lake is one of the most prominent signs of the Township. It is situated in ward No.2 (Honaung ward) and has an area of 22,247 acres. Aung Mingalar hall built near the lake is a glory of the Township. Township Development Affairs Department is constructing roads, including three miles of tarred roads, two miles of gravel roads and seven furlongs of earth roads. In addition, ten wooden bridges and nine bridges with culvert were constructed and so did village-to-village roads including 14 miles four furlongs of gravel road and 51 miles four furlongs of earth road.

The 3200-gallon water tank is being built for supply of water in the township. The supply of water to rural area is from the springs. Myoma market and row of shops along the Bogyoke Aung San road are crowded with people at the market open every five days. In the evening, one can take a rest and eat food at the restaurant on rock mountain viewpoint which is at the exit of Hsenwi to Muse. Markets in Hsenwi Township are Myoma, Namtu, SaeU, Narte, Sanlaung, Kaungkhan and Kwan Kauk markets.

It has 51,542 acres of cultivable land, 127,516 acres of forest land, 22,247 acres of reserved forests, 67,375 acres of virgin and vacant land and 19,821 acres of protected forest. Animals being bred in the township are buffalo, cow, pig, chicken and fish. Paddy, corn, soya bean, groundnut, pigeon pea, sesame, belligerent myrobalan, sunflower, rubber, sugar-cane, chilli, potato, coffee, tea, banana and fruit plant are grown.

It has one Basic Education High School and four BEHS (branch), one Basic Education Middle School and seven Post-Primary Schools and 50 BEPS. For health care services, it has one 25-bed hospital, two 16-bed station hospitals, three rural health clinics and 12 rural health clinics (branch). Hsenwi Township is Shan State (North) with MyoU lotus lake, rock mountain viewpoint, green paddy fields and waterfall always extends welcome to visitors.

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Translation: MT
Kyenom : 29-11-2009

Wakadoke Supporting Dam in Bago Township contributing to monsoon and summer paddy

Article: Maung Maung Kyaw; Photos: Zaw Min Tun

Moreover, the Wakadoke Dam supplies water to summer paddy fields of 43,000 acres of irrigated area of the dam.

The Wakadoke Dam that is of earthen type is 86 feet high and 6400 feet long with its 3055 feet long embankment. Its water storage capacity is 32600 acre feet. The 255 feet long single conduit of the dam is of concrete type, and the spillway is 430 feet long and 30 feet wide. The birth of the dam contributes a great deal to farmers of Bago, Thanatpin and Thongwa townships. Although the dam has entered many years, it is still in full swing in the supply of water to farmlands of Bago Division.

Translation: ZZZ
Kyenom: 30-11-2009
Ministry of Forestry honours victorious athletes

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov—Ministry of Forestry honoured its victorious athletes at International Business Centre here yesterday evening.

Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung graced the ceremony and presented prizes to the victorious athletes. One of the athletes spoke words of thanks. Athletes from the Ministry of Forestry won two gold, one silver and five bronze in the international sports meets and 67 gold, 45 silver and 57 bronze in local sports events in 2008-2009 fiscal year, totalling 177.

MNA

Transport Minister attends work co-ordination meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov—The work coordination meeting of Ministry of Transport took place at the meeting hall of the ministry here this morning. It was attended by Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe.

After making an opening speech, the minister heard the reports on works being carried out and future tasks presented by directors-general, managing directors, rectors and engineer in-charge of Bridge Construction Project Special Group No. (9) on progress in constructing bridge and approach road, the deputy minister gave necessary instructions. Then, he viewed construction site from the briefing hall.

He also inspected the laying of asphalt at mile post No. 55/0 on Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana-Pinlaung road, at mile post No. 22/5 on Aungban-Pinlaung-Moebye-Loikaw road and maintenance of Beluchaung bridge at mile post No. 14/7.

MNA

Basic computer course of IRD concludes

YANGON, 29 Nov—The concluding ceremony of No. 12 Basic Computer Course conducted by Internal Revenue Department under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue took place at the IRD here on 27 November.

On behalf of the director-general, Deputy Director-General U Aung Myint Tun delivered an address. Later, the deputy director-general presented prizes to the trainees who stood first, second and third in the four-week course.

MNA

Survey methods and information technology course concludes

YANGON, 30 Nov—The concluding ceremony of survey methods and information technology course jointly conducted by Settlements and Land Records Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) took place at SLRD (branch), here on 27 November.

Deputy Director-General U Win Tun Ni delivered an address on behalf of the director-general of SLRD. Director U Aye Maung Sein presented gifts to accounting expert Ms Rosalinda Manuel-Garcia of Bureau of Agricultural Statistics of the Philippines, and IT specialist Mr Jing B Jalisan.

MNA

Special issue on world population published

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov—The Social Welfare Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the UNFPA co-organized the launch of the special issue on world population and a seminar at Kumudra Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zone this morning.

Deputy Director-General of the Social Welfare Department U Aung Tun Khaing delivered an opening address. UNFPA Resident Representative Mr Mohamed Abdel Ahad delivered a speech and presented a topic on “Facing a changing : Women, Population and Climate”.

Daw Pansy Tun Thein from UNFPA presented a topic on “Assonant on “Women Protection”; Deputy Director Daw Yupa Mya from SAD on “Assessment on Women Protection issue:Post Nargis”; Dr Shwe Thwin from Mingalar Myanmar, on “Population Dynamic”; and Daw Tin Mar Htay from the Physics Department of Yangon University, on “Changes in Monsoon in Myanmar”. The attendees made suggestions on the subjects.

MNA
Delegation of MFF leaves for Vietnam

Myanmar delegation led by Director-General U Khin Ko Lay of Fisheries Department and Vice-President U Han Tun of MFF seen at Yangon International Airport on departure for Vietnam.—AFP

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov—At the invitation of Central Vietnam Fisheries Society, a delegation of Myanmar Fisheries Federation, led by Director-General U Khin Ko Lay of Fisheries Department under Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and Vice-President U Han Tun of Myanmar Fisheries Federation, left Yangon for Socialist Republic of Vietnam this morning to observe the breeding of fish and prawn in Vietnam from 30 November to 6 December. They were seen off by President U Htay Myint of MFF and CEC members at Yangon International Airport. The 17-member delegation comprises seven from Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and ten entrepreneurs from MFF. MNA

Work coordination meeting of Rail Transportation Ministry held

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov—The work coordination meeting of the Ministry of Rail Transportation was held at the hall of the ministry here this morning, with an opening speech of Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min.

In his speech, the minister called for cultivating a sense of duty in carrying out tasks, practice of thriftily in the tasks, minimizing loss and wastage, completion of the work programmes on schedule, meeting the set standards, expediting the transportation of goods according to the objectives of the Myanmar Railways, and completion of a railroad network between a state or division and another.

The directors-general, managing directors and principal of Central Institute of Transport and Communications reported on the progress of tasks and future programmes.

The meeting came to an end with concluding remarks of the minister. —MNA

Vocational Training Centre for Women in Pale Township

(from page 16)

The whole compound was found pleasant with shady perennial trees, landscaping plants and seasonal crops patches.

When asked about the centre, Principal Daw Nan Thandar Aung said to the Myanma Alin that the purposes of the centre were: (a) to teach young women of national races in border areas vocational subjects and help them to run their own business, (b) to improve their living conditions (c) to inculcate them with a sense of preservation of national prestige and integrity with good characters, (d) to arouse their patriotism, and (e) to promote traditional cottage industries; and that in particular the centre was aimed at fulfilling the basic needs and improving the living standard of young women in the regions on the western bank of the Chindwin River.

The centre was launched on 6 December 2005, and now it is running its 12th course. The 14-week course is available for 50 women. Up to now, 518 trainees have completed their courses namely, basic domestic science course, advanced tailoring course, and wicker ware course. Trainees are of various national races including Bamar, Chin and Kadu from YeU, Tamu, Kalay, Kawlin, Wuntho, Shwebo, Kalewa, Kyunhla, Katha, Inndaw, Bamauk, Budalin and KhinU. So far, Sagaing Division has got eight vocational training centers for women.

In an interview, with a smile, Ma Khin Myint Lwin from Katha said, “When I complete the course, I think I will go back to Kawlin and run a tailoring shop. And I will teach tailoring to those who are interested in it.

“In my opinion, tailoring is an art every woman should learn. With what I have gained from the training centre, I will support my family and serve the interest of the nation.”

Kawlin dweller Ma Soe Sandi Aung said, “Bamboo is abundant in our region, so if I make bamboo furniture and utensils as my livelihood, I think I will get on with my business. Making bamboo works is a Myanmar traditional cottage industry, and so I am now working hard in my studies.”

It is, therefore, fair to say that Vocational Training Centre for Women in Pale Township reflects the government’s benevolent attitude to the people.

Translation: MS

Myanma Alin: 29-11-09

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Italian chef missing at sea on Caribbean cruise

ROME, 30 Nov—Colombian maritime authorities searched on Sunday for an Italian chef believed to have gone overboard from a US cruise ship off Colombia’s Caribbean coast, officials and the man’s family said.

There were different accounts about when and where Angelo Faliva, 31, was last seen as the Princess Cruises “Coral Princess” sailed from Aruba to Cartagena, Colombia, between 25 and 26 Nov.

Princess Cruises spokeswoman Julie Benson said Faliva was last seen on a deck at about 8:30 am, Thursday on 26 Nov, when he spoke with another crew member as the ship neared Cartagena. His family, however, said they had been told that he had unexpectedly walked out of the ship’s galley at about 8:15 pm the night before, while he was working the dinner shift, and never returned and hadn’t been seen since. The Faliva family said it was alerted Thursday that he had been reported missing and that a life preserver was also missing, with its nighttime illumination flares torn off and left aboard the ship.

Two stranded whales near death on Bali beach

BALI, 30 Nov—Two young whales are stranded on Indonesia’s resort island of Bali and will die on the beach because they are too weak to survive even if returned to the water, an official said on Sunday.

Attempts to rescue the beached whales, a rare occurrence on Bali, have been abandoned, said Bali’s Fisheries and Marine Department official Nyoman Wirma Ariwangsa.

“They are in critical condition now,” he said.

Bali’s Fisheries and Commerce chief Ariwangsa, said the whales had been abandoned, said Bali’s Fisheries and Commerce official Nyoman Wirma Ariwangsa.

“Two short-finned pilot whales, a protected species, were both extensively scratched and bruised, apparently from fishing nets at sea. Their carcasses will be buried before they decompose,” Ariwangsa said.

The pair was among four whales that washed ashore on Saturday near Tanah Lot Beach, one of the most popular and picturesque tourist destinations on the island province, Ariwangsa said.

Scientists explain methane, ethane lakes on Titan

LOS ANGELES, 30 Nov—US scientists said the eccentricity of Saturn’s orbit around the Sun may be responsible for the uneven distribution of methane and ethane lakes over the northern and southern polar regions of Saturn’s moon, Titan.

Researchers at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) described their theory in the 29 Nov online edition of Nature Geoscience. Caltech researchers compared the situation with the Earth, where a similar “astronomical forcing” of climate drives ice-age cycles.

Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) imaging data taken by NASA’s Cassini spacecraft revealed that liquid hydrocarbon-filled lakes in Titan’s northern high latitudes cover 20 times more area than lakes in the southern high latitudes. There are also significantly more partially filled and now-empty lakes in the north.

Scientists initially thought there was something inherently different about the northern polar region versus the south in terms of topography, such that liquid rains, drains, or infiltrates the ground more in one hemisphere. But there are no substantial known differences between the north and south to support this possibility.

Tiny magnetic discs could kill cancer cells

PARIS, 30 Nov—Tiny magnetic discs just a millionth of a metre in diameter could be used to target kill cancer cells, according to a study published on Sunday.

Laboratory tests found the so-called “nanodiscs”, around 60 billionths of a metre thick, could be used to disrupt the membranes of cancer cells, causing them to self-destruct.

The discs are made from an iron-nickel alloy, which move when subjected to a magnetic field, damaging the cancer cells, the report published in the 29 Nov online edition of Nature Materials said.

One of the study’s authors, Elena Rozhlova of Argonne National Laboratory in the United States, said subjecting the discs to a low magnetic field for around ten minutes was enough to destroy 90 percent of cancer cells in tests.
**Japanese automakers’ output slumps in October**

**Tokyo, 30 Nov—**Japanese automakers in October this year manufactured and exported significantly less automobiles, including cars, trucks and motorcycles, compared to figures for the same month a year earlier, according to a report by the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association, Inc (JAMA), issued on Monday.

Automobile production in Japan in Oct 2009 was recorded at 820,910 units compared with 1,101,403 units for the same month of the previous year, according to the report. This marks a 19.1 percent production decrease on the same month of the previous year, for a period of thirteen consecutive months.

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**S Korea sees advance in listed firms’ exports**

SEOUL, 30 Nov—South Korea’s listed firms saw a growth in exports by 2.2 percent in the first nine months of 2009, thanks to brisk sales in the electronics sector, the bourse operator said on Monday.

According to the Korea Exchange (KRX), the 385 manufacturers listed on the KRX saw exports amounting to 238.8 trillion won (204.4 billion US dollars) for the January-September period. During the same period last year, the companies saw exports totalling 235.5 trillion won (209 billion US dollars) for the January-September period.

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**China, EU to promote trade, investment**

Nanjing, 30 Nov—China and the European Union, in a joint statement issued Monday, vowed to step up efforts to promote trade and investment and increase effective market access. The statement was issued on the sidelines of the 12th China-EU Summit held in Nanjing, capital of Jiangsu Province in east China.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao attended the meeting with President of the European Council and Swedish Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso.

The two sides shared the view that economic and trade ties between China and the EU were an important and integral part of the comprehensive strategic partnership, said the joint statement.

They agreed to step up efforts to promote trade and investment and increase effective market access in order to deal with the economic crisis. The European Union appreciated the efforts of China to undertake trade and investment promotion missions to Europe.

In the statement, leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the High Level Economic and Trade Dialogue (HED).
H1N1 flu infected dogs
“no threat to humans”

BEIJING, 30 Nov—Health experts in China have assured pet-lovers they need not panic following the discovery of two dogs infected with the deadly H1N1 flu at the weekend. The animals were diagnosed in Beijing and, while it is possible for pets to transfer viruses to their owners, scientists said there is no evidence to suggest pets are already spreading the illness.

“If animals can get infected from humans, then the reverse is also true,” said Feng Zujian, director of emergency response for the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention. “But there is no need to panic in this case.” He explained that so far, across the world, the virus has only been passed from humans to pets.

However, if the virus spreads among dogs, it could potentially be passed on when the animal sneezes or through its waste. “Only when the virus mutates within dogs will it be a new threat to humans,” Feng said. The virus found in dogs in Beijing was a 99-percent match for the flu currently infecting humans, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, which announced the canine infection on Saturday but did not elaborate on the breed.

Health experts in China have assured pet-lovers they need not panic following the discovery of two dogs infected with the deadly H1N1 flu at the weekend. —Xinhua

Kangaroo DNA system could help prevent skin cancer

CANBERRA, 30 Nov—Australian researchers revealed on Monday that finding out how kangaroos repair their DNA could be the key to preventing skin cancer.

Melbourne University researchers Dr Linda Feketeova and Dr Uta Wille have teamed up with Austrian scientists from the University of Innsbruck to find ways to reduce skin cancer-related cases.

They are investigating a DNA repair enzyme found in kangaroos and many other organisms — but not humans — that repairs DNA damage that is linked to skin cancer.

“As summer approaches, excessive exposure to the sun’s harmful UV light will see more than 400,000 Australians diagnosed with skin cancer,” Feketeova said.

Other research teams have proposed a ‘ream cream’ containing the DNA repair enzyme which you could slap on your skin after a day in the sun. “We are now examining whether this would be feasible by looking at the chemistry behind the kangaroo DNA system.”

Death toll from A/H1N1 influenza rises to 44 in Vietnam

HANOI, 30 Nov—Vietnam confirmed two more deaths of A/H1N1 flu virus, bringing the country’s total number of flu deaths to 44, said a report on the website of the Ministry of Health on Monday.

The 43rd case is a 20-year-old girl from the southern Khanh Hoa Province. She was six months pregnant and said the ministry.

The patient died on 24 Nov, due to respiratory failure. Her sample was tested positive to the A/H1N1 virus, said the ministry.—Xinhua

Plan to breed lab monkeys splits Puerto Rican town

GUAYAMA, 30 Nov—Puerto Rico has such a bad history with research monkeys running amok, some residents are stunned that its territorial government has approved a plan to import and breed thousands of primates for sale to US researchers.

Bioculture Ltd, with facilities at 19 sites around the world, has secured permits to begin operating next summer in Guayama, a small, depressed mountain district in southeastern Puerto Rico.

They want to turn the Caribbean territory into a major supplier of primates, much to the dismay of islanders already dealing with a plague of patas monkeys — descendants of lab escapers that run though backyards, stop traffic and destroy crops.—Internet
Sports

Davydenko downs Del Potro to crown at ATP World Tour Finals

LONDON, 30 Nov—Russian player Nikolai Davydenko defeated Juan Martin del Potro 6-3, 6-4 to clinched the title of the ATP World Tour Finals at O2 Arena on Sunday.

Davydenko, beating World No. 1 Roger Federer in Saturday’s semifinals, made stride to become the first Russian to win the year-end title in the tournament history.

“If you see like I was watching, till 2008, so many names there, like Djokovic, Federer, everyone, Sampras. In 2009, stay name Davydenko for, like, forever, for this trophy. I think it’s amazing,” said the 28-year-old World No 7.

Davydenko, upsetting Federer for the first time in their all 13 meetings believed winning the trophy here was the sweetest for him.

Xinhua

Kiesling treble sends Leverkusen top, Bayern go fourth

BERLIN, 30 Nov—A superb hat-trick from German international striker Stefan Kiesling sent unbeaten Leverkusen top of the Bundesliga on Sunday after blitzing hapless Stuttgart 4-0.

But Bayern Munich also served notice they intend to have a say in the title race as Real Madrid’s goalkeeper in the final of the ATP World Tour Finals tennis match in London, on 29 Nov, 2009.—Xinhua

Ibrahimovic’s goal gives Barca win in Spanish “El Classico”

MADRID, 30 Nov—Zlatan Ibrahimovic scored the lone goal in FC Barcelona’s 1-0 victory over Real Madrid in the Spanish “El Classico” at the Camp Nou Stadium on Sunday.

The win put Barcelona back on top of the Primera Liga after a fascinating game that saw a contrast in styles and fortunes.

Real Madrid will point to an organized defensive display and several missed chances to argue that they deserved more.

However, Barcelona will point to the fact that they played the last 30 minutes with just 10 men, while Carles Puyol made a series of heroic challenges to deny the visitors in front of goal.

The run into the game had been filled with speculation as to whether Cristiano Ronaldo, Leo Messi and Ibrahimovic would be fit to play.

Xinhua

Bute KOs Andrade to keep IBF super middleweight belt

QUEBEC CITY, 30 Nov—Unbeaten Lucian Bute knocked out Librado Andrade in the fourth round here to retain his International Boxing Federation super middleweight world title. The Romanian-born Bute, who has become a hero in his adopted Canada, dropped the Mexican challenger for the first time in the fourth with a short left to the chin, sending a crowd of 16,000 into a frenzy. But then connected with a left to the midriff that sent Andrade down for the count at 2:57 of the fourth.

Bute improved to 25-0 with 20 knockouts, while Andrade fell to 28-3 with 21 wins inside the distance. Bute said the knockout was just what he had in mind.

Xinhua

Botafogo loses 0-2 to Atletico-PR, falls into danger zone

RIO DE JANEIRO, 30 Nov—Host Atletico-PR won 2-0 over Botafogo in the 37th round here on Sunday to guarantee its first division (Serie A) placing while Botafogo was in danger of relegation from the Brazilian soccer championship.

Botafogo had the first chance of scoring in Sunday’s game, but Sandro’s ball bounced off the post in the 37th minute. Atletico-PR’s scoring soon after Paulo Baier gave a great assist to Wallison who slid the ball past Botafogo’s goalkeeper Jeferson in the 39th minute.

The home team scored again in the 64th minute when Paulo Baier gave another assist to teammate Leandro Guerreiro who headed the ball into the right corner of Jeferson’s net.

Atletico-PR’s win takes it to 14th place with 47 points. With only one round of play remaining, the team mathematically can only be lowered into the second division of next year’s tournament.—Xinhua

Chelsea can dominate title race, says Ancelotti

LONDON, 30 Nov—Carlo Ancelotti believes Chelsea are capable of running away with the Premier League title race if they maintain focus over the aftermath of their impressive 3-0 victory at Arsenal.

Ancelotti’s side opened up a five point lead at the top of the table thanks to Didier Drogba’s double strike and a Thomas Vermaelen own goal at the Emirates Stadium on Sunday.

The Blues are firmly in control of the fight for the English title after five consecutive league victories and Ancelotti admits it is possible they could keep up their impressive pace for the rest of the season.

Wins over reigning champion United, Liverpool and now Arsenal suggest the Italian could be right.

But Ancelotti was wise enough to couch his claim in a warning that his players cannot afford to rest on their laurels after defeats at Wigan and Aston Villa earlier this season showed what can happen if they take their eye off the ball.

Internet

Ugandan runner Kipsiro voted national Athlete of the Year

KAMPALA, 30 Nov—Ugandan distance runner Moses Kipsiro has been voted the national Athlete of the Year for the third year running by the Ugandan Athletics Federation (UAAF) over the weekend, local media reported on Monday.

The Standard Club athlete, who had to battle several injuries during the season, had a one-man run on Saturday evening to the top accolade that comes with an AND 1 million Ugandan shillings (about 533 US dollars) cash prize.

Reina “one of the best in the world” says Benitez

LIVERPOOL, 30 Nov—Liverpool manager Rafa Benitez labelled Jose Reina “one of the best keepers in the world” after the Spanish international inspired his side to victory in the Merseyside derby.

With Liverpool leading 1-0, Reina produced a stunning stop to claw away Tim Cahill’s header before denying Marouane Fellaini with the follow up.

It was a key moment in the game, Kuyt going on to double his side’s lead soon afterwards, as Liverpool bounced back from their premature exit from the Champions League.

“We have seen that he is a top class keeper,” said Benitez, after his side climbed into fifth spot in the table.

“When we signed him we knew that we were getting a very good keeper. For me he is one of the best in the world.”

Dirk Kuyt also praised Reina as Liverpool recorded their first clean sheet victory away from home in the Premier League since last season.—Internet
Nokia plans one Linux phone, no plant sales eyed

Helsinki, 30 Nov — Nokia Oyj plans to install Linux software on just one new smartphone next year, a source told Reuters on Monday, dampening prospects of a quick makeover of the Finnish group’s struggling product line-up.

But a spokesman said the world’s biggest handset maker had no plans to sell its manufacturing plants, clarifying earlier comments by an executive in the run-up to the firm’s strategy update on Wednesday. Nokia marketing head Anssi Vanjoki told German magazine Wirtschaftswoche the firm, which is battling falling handset prices and increased competition in smartphones, did not rule out an eventual sale of its core handset manufacturing business.

The Linux Maemo operating system is seen as key for Nokia in its rivalry with Apple Inc’s iPhone, and many analysts and industry players have been expecting the firm to roll out numerous Linux models already next year.

Nokia started to sell its first Linux phone this month. The plan for one Linux phone also dampens rumors the firm was expecting the firm to make a quick and industry players have been expecting the firm to make a quick.

* Nokia plans one Linux phone also
* Nokia started to sell its first Linux phone this month. The plan for one Linux phone also
* Nokia was expecting the firm to make a quick.

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 1 December, 2009

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (1-12-2009) (Tuesday)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transmissions</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>(09:00am~10:00am)MST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>(15:30pm~23:30pm)MST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>(23:30pm~07:30MST)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Local Transmission
* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanna Beauty & Scenic Sights
* Ancient Historic Mwaytawkkak Pagoda
* Global Warming & World Climate Change (Part-I)
* Walk in Aviary... a Recreation Centre
* Let’s Sing Together
* Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Seawaters (1)
* Song of Myanna Beauty & Scenic Sights

Europe/ North America Transmission
* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanna Beauty & Scenic Sights
* Ancient Historic Mwaytawkkak Pagoda
* Global Warming & World Climate Change (Part-I)
* Culture Stage
* Walk in Aviary... a Recreation Centre
* Let’s Sing Together
* Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Seawaters (1)
* Myanmar Modern Song
* Myanmar Handiwork, Painting Art
* Pleasant Taunggyi (Part-2)
* The Hilly Town (Namhsan)
* Hukaung Valley Rattan Survey (Part-III)
* Song of Myanna Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mn

WEATHER

Monday, 30th November, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.

M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Rakhine State, Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. (3°C) to (4°C) below November average temperatures in Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States, Yangon Division, (5°C) to (6°C) below November average temperatures in Sagaing, Magway and Bago Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperatures were Haka (2°C), Pinyaung (5°C), Namsam (6°C) Heho (7°C), Lashio (7°C) and Mogok (8°C) each and An (9°C).

Maximum temperature on 29-11-2009 was 96°F. Minimum temperature on 30-11-2009 was 62°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 30-11-2009 was 69%.

Rainfall on 30-11-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, at Kabay-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (111.69) inches at Mingaladon, (122.09) inches at Kabay-Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from East at (15:30) hours MST on 29-11-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 1st December 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States and Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. State of the sea: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

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

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 1-12-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 1-12-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 1-12-2009: 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

Vocational Training Centre for Women in Pale Township

With a view to ensuring peace and modernization of the Union of Myanmar, parallel development of urban and rural areas, and progress of border areas and national races, the Tatmadaw government is in pursuit of all-round development tasks alongside the five rural area development programmes in the 24 regions designated for significant development. In order to expedite the drive, the Education and Training Department under the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs has opened a vocation training center for women in Pale Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division.

Byline & photos: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

Tatmadaw Football Tourney (2009) continues

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Nov — The first-stage round robin matches of the 48th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament (2009) continued at designated sports grounds today.

In Group (A) matches held in Eastern Command Zone (Taunggyi), Nay Pyi Taw Command defeated North-East Command 2-0 while No. 22 LID and Yangon Command ended in a 0-0 tie; in Group (B) in South-West Command Zone (Pathein), Defence Services (Navy) routed No. 77 LID 3-0 while South-West Command (A) crippled No. 101 LID 4-0; in Group (C) in North-West Command Zone (Monywa), Camp Commandant’s Office hammered Defence Services (Air) 3-1 while Southern Command battered Triangle Region Command (B) 7-0; in Group (D) in Southern Command Zone (Monywa), Western Command (B) hammered No. 33 LID 8-0 while North-West Command thrashed Coastal Region Command (B) 4-1.

MNA

INSIDE

“Eight Brahmin priests, each facing a cardinal direction incantated “mantras”, invoking Maha Peinhne Nat and praying for his blessings and favours. Then they offered fruits, flowers, perfume, milk, butter, sweets and drinking water. Entertainments followed creating a festive atmosphere for the public.”

DR. KHIN MAUNG NYUN PAGE 7

Women in the tailoring course.