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Senior General Than Shwe sends message of felicitations to Thai King

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec—On the occasion of the birthday anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej which falls on 5 December 2009, Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of the Kingdom of Thailand.—MNA

Prime Minister felicitates Thai counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Dec—On the occasion of the birthday anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej which falls on 5 December 2009, General Thein Sein, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Abhisit Vejajiva, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.—MNA

Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends concluding ceremony of Tatmadaw Agricultural Course No 65

YANGON, 4 Dec—Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence, accompanied by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint, visited of Myanma Rice Research Institute in Hmawby Township, Yangon North District this morning. Officials concerned reported to Lt-Gen Myint Swe on paddy strains and characteristics of quality paddy strains.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe attended to the needs and made a speech at the concluding ceremony of Tatmadaw Agricultural Course No 65. He presented awards to outstanding trainees and certificates to the trainees.

Government has never discriminated against any national races whether they reside in hills or plains but treated them equally

Border guard force formed in Si-aw, Laukkai District, Shan State (North)

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Dec—The government has put into action the programmes to transform national race armed groups, which have returned to the legal fold, into legally armed border guard forces for State security and stability and peace of border areas. The formation of the border guard force of Kokang Group in Shan State (North) Special Region (1) took place on a grand scale at Si-aw in Laukkai District, Shan State (North), this morning.

Present on the occasion were Lt-Gen Ye Myint of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut, Vice-Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Hla Shwe, Vice-Quartermaster-General Maj-Gen Hun Kyaw, Director of People’s Militia and Frontier Forces Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn, Director of Controller of Military

Lt-Gen Ye Myint of Ministry of Defence attends formation ceremony of the border guard force of Kokang Group in Shan State (North) Special Region (1).—MNA

Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquility, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State 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

(See page 7)
**PERSPECTIVES**

Saturday, 5 December, 2009

**Preserve ancient cultural heritage**

According to one of the social objectives “uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character”, the government is not only preserving national cultural heritage but also unearthing ancient cultural objects by conducting research.

In so doing, an old Piny town in Myittha Township, Kyaukse District, Mandalay Division, was excavated for the second time from 19 September to 24 October. In doing research on Mound Nos. 16 & 17, about 200 yards from the eastern wall of the town, the layout of the building unearthed on Mound No.16 was found to be the same as that of Pyu cities and of Mound Nos. 7, 8, 14 & 15 of the old Piny town. So, the same building layout has proved that they might be religious buildings concerned with Buddhism. The structure of the building unearthed at Piny town is simple and the same as that of ancient Pyu cities.

According to the findings, the layout was designated on the ground and emphasis was placed on massive brick walls. So ground foundation system was found to be used. Three broken urns and an iron nail were also found. The layout of the building on the Mound No. 17 is in square shape. It is built from east to west. The western part has an entrance door with a stairway with 5 ft and 3 inches in width.

Urns and Pyu Period coins and beads were unearthed from the building. The building has the brick foundation and it is a half-type single-storey brick building. We, therefore, can deduce that it may be a religious building.

The layouts of the two buildings on the 16th and 17th mounds are found to be the same as that of religious buildings in Pyu cities of Beikthano, Hanlin and Srikestra. It can be assumed that they are Pyu religious buildings.

At a time when the government is undertaking research on national cultural heritage, the national people on their part are to preserve and safeguard cultural heritage with national outlook.

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**Electronic and Lifestyle show 2009 on 24-27 Dec**

**Yangon, 4 Dec—**

International Exhibition Management Services (IEMS) Company Limited has made an arrangement to hold Electronic and Lifestyle show 2009 in Tarmadaw Convention Hall on U Wi Sara Road here from 24 to 27 December. Electronic and Lifestyle Show 2009 is mainly sponsored by NIBAN Electric and Electronics, Energy-saving new technological materials from Panasonic, Cheng Hong and Mitsubishi will be put on display. Latest laptops and Software Systems will be displayed by Acer, Lucky Bird, Myanmar Technology Zone, Blue Ray, KMD, King Empire, Cyber City, NCTC, Unique, Red Link, P.I.T, Trust Net, Sm3, MBC, Integra, Golden Rain, Notebook mart and Cho Cho; Transformer by Asia General Electric; Online U.P.S by Golden Lion and E.M.; Induction Cooker by Future Step and Fukad; printers and copiers by Cannon and Concordia; latest electronic and modern home utensils by Everseiko, Amii Company, Smart Electronic Dictionary, Toshiba Kwai Win, Three Friends Trading, Setra, Revo, Rinmai, AEK, Aung Myanmar, Atlas, Integra, Golden Rain, Moon Fancy, MNZ, Khind, Maco Mistral, Asahi and Omica; New technology Mobile Handsets and related materials by New Mobile, Do Co Mo, Great Mobile, Mobile Friend and Hisense; and modern home and office use furniture by Ocean Glory (Leeco), Universal Furniture and Nat Fly (Golden Coin).

IEMS Company will present entertainment programme to visitors. The show also includes a lucky draw programme in which a washing machine or a refrigerator will be presented to a winner daily for more detail, Contact Ph-09-48809888.

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**Mandalay Mayor visits Mandalay Daily**

**Yangon, 4 Dec—**

Chairman of Mandalay City Development Committee Major Brig-Gen Phone Zaw Han on 1 December, visited Mandalay Daily of Public Relations and Information Department of Mandalay City Development Committee in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay.

The mayor inspected roadworks in Chanayethazan Township and Mandalay-Yangon Highway. The mayor then inspected asphalt factory of Mandalay City Development Committee in Kyaukchaw region of Patheingyi Township and fulfilled the requirements.

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**FM sends felicitations to Thai counterpart**

**Yangon, 4 Dec—**

On the occasion of the birthday anniversary of H.H. King Bhumibol Adulyadej which falls on 5 December 2009, U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitation to His Excellency Mr Kasit Piromya, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand. —MNA

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**UMFCCI officials meet foreign guests**

**Yangon, 4 Dec—**

Vice-President U Zaw Min Win, CEC Members of UMFCCI and entrepreneurs meet Vice-Chairman Mr Niyoum Viyaratpanish and party of Board of Trade of Thailand.

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**Basic Course No. 182 for Officers concludes**

**Yangon, 4 Dec—**

The concluding ceremony of Basic Course No.182 for Officers was held at the parade ground of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phyuaddyay) this morning.

Daw Myint Myint Mon, Pro-Rector (Training) awarded outstanding trainees and presented completion certificates to trainees.

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MNA
Cuba blasts US black leaders for charges of racism

Havana, 4 Dec — Cuba hit back on Thursday at 60 prominent US Black leaders who challenged its race record, with island writers, artists and official journalists calling the criticism an attack on their country’s national identity.

The five-page signed statement, distributed by Cuban government Press officials in an e-mail, defended Cuba’s progress in providing social and personal opportunities for Blacks and people of mixed race.

But it focused more on Cuba’s past than the racial inequalities of contemporary Cuban society that came under criticism from Americans such as Princeton University professor Cornel West; Jeremiah Wright, former pastor of President Barack Obama’s Chicago church; and Susan Taylor, former editor of Essence magazine.

Cuba’s response said the country has proven its racial credentials by sending troops to Angola and Ethiopia during the 1970s and offering free education through exchange programmes and medical schooling to youngsters from Africa. It also recited past Fidel Castro comments on race and noted that the 1959 revolution his bearded rebels “dismantled the institutional and judicial bases of a racist society.”

Suicide bomber kills 11 in northern Iraq

TIKRIT, 4 Dec — A suicide bomber blew himself up among a group of policemen at a marketplace in the city of Tikrit, the capital of Salahadin Province, on Thursday, killing a police chief and 10 people and wounding 15 others, a provincial police source said. — Xinhua

Mexican PM says decision on US bases to wait until next year

MEXICO CITY, 3 Dec — Mexico City police on Thursday freed 107 people who were forced to work under slave-like conditions in a clandestine factory making shopping bags and clothing clasps, authorities said.

Police raided the factory, which was hidden inside an alcohol and drug rehabilitation centre, after a worker escaped and informed authorities, Mexico City Attorney General Miguel Angel Mancera said.

Twenty three people were arrested for human trafficking. “The victims were being exploited and some were sexually abused,” Mancera said. Many were suffering from dehydration and malnutrition, and some had cuts and broken bones.

Most were from indigenous communities and didn’t speak Spanish. They were abducted or lured from communities across Mexico and taken to the St Thomas-The Chosen by God rehabilitation centre, Mancera said. — Internet

Samoa Tsunami wave was 46 feet high

WELLINGTON, 4 Dec — The tsunami that killed more than 200 people in the Samoan islands and Tonga earlier this year towered up to 46 feet (14 metres) high — more than twice as tall as most of the buildings it slammed into, scientists said on Friday.

New Zealand scientists studying the size, power and reach of the tsunami as part of efforts to guard against future disasters said they found up to three destructive waves were caused by the magnitude 8.0 undersea earthquake in September.

The massive waves that struck Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga totally destroyed traditional wooden buildings, many of them singly storey, along the coast while reinforced concrete buildings sustained only minor damage, said Stefan Reese, a risk engineer with New Zealand’s National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research. The waves were up to 46 feet (14 metres) high, Reese told The Associated Press. The scientists measured watermarks on buildings and trees to help confirm the height of the waves. — Internet

Japanese PM says decision on US bases in Okinawa to wait until next year

Tokyo, 4 Dec — Japan’s Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama said on Friday that the plan to keep US troops in Okinawa is “still alive.”

The Prime Minister had said on Thursday that any decision on where to move the US troops currently stationed in Okinawa will not be made until next year. His comments were made hours after Mizuho Fukushima, the leader of coalition partner Social Democratic Party (SDP), said that her party may leave the government if the bases remain in Okinawa. The Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) has said that keeping US troops in Okinawa is an option. — Xinhua

Death toll rises to 57 in Mogadishu hotel explosion

Mogadishu, 4 Dec — The death toll of a suicide bomb explosion in a Mogadishu hotel on Thursday rose to nearly 57, including three Somali government ministers, while as many as 200 others were wounded, local ambulance services said.

“We have ferried to hospitals more than 200 people injured in the explosion and our staff and hospital health workers report 57 dead,” Ali Muse, head of local ambulance service, said.Ministers for health, education and higher education and culture were among those that died in the suicide bomb in Shamo. Hotel in the government-controlled south of the Somali capital Mogadishu. Two local journalists at the scene also died.

Government officials said another government minister for youth and sports was also “critically” wounded in the blast which has not so far been claimed by any group.

A farewell ceremony was being held for university graduates leaving abroad for higher education scholarship when the suicide bomber, a female, managed to get into the packed hotel, killing dozens including students and journalists while scores others were wounded.

MNA / Xinhua
Job creation near but likely to be painfully slow

WASHINGTON, 4 Dec—The economy is getting closer to generating jobs for the first time in two years, but it probably won’t be enough to stop the unemployment rate from rising.

Analysts expect the Labour Department will report on Friday that employers cut a net total of 130,000 jobs in November, according to a survey by Thomson Reuters. That’s an improvement from 190,000 the previous month.

The department is also expected to say the unemployment rate will remain 10.2 percent, the same as in October, a 26-year high.

Two economic reports on Thursday gave some economists hope that employers will gear up hiring early next year and that the economy will start adding jobs in the first quarter. But the unemployment rate may still rise well into 2010.

That’s because 15.7 million unemployed Americans will also have to compete against a huge number of “underemployed” workers for any new jobs that are created. The government estimates there are another 11.7 million people working fewer hours than they’d like or that have given up looking for work.

It could take years for the economy to generate enough jobs for all those people and bring down the unemployment rate, analysts said.

EDF joins South Stream pipeline project

MILAN, 4 Dec—Italian energy group ENI and Russian partner Gasprom signed an agreement on Thursday authorizing French firm EDF to join the South Stream gas pipeline project, ENI said.

But the conditions of EDF’s participation in the project will be defined “in the next few months,” ENI said in a statement.

“Gasprom president Alexy Miller and ENI director general Paolo Scaroni signed today...the agreement authorizing the entry of French company EDF in the South Stream project,” ENI said.—Internet

South Korea carmakers seek expanded US market

LOS ANGELES, 4 Dec—After making solid gains in 2009, South Korean automakers Hyundai and Kia are predicting more gains in market share in 2010 as they roll out more new vehicles.

John Krafcik, Hyundai Motor America’s acting president and chief executive, said on Thursday he expects car sales in the United States to grow next year, and Hyundai’s market share to grow with it.

Sales should be up about eight percent to 10 percent next year,” he said. “The first and second quarter will be more like this year but things should pick up in the third quarter,” Krafcik said.

Overall sales in the US market should grow beyond 11 million units in 2010. Hyundai’s market share will also continue to grow, he said.

Hyundai, which sold over 401,000 cars so far in 2009, boosted its market share by a third this year and more gains are expected next year with introduction of the all new 2011 Sonata and new Tucson.

Both models were unveiled during the Press previews leading up to the official opening of the Los Angeles auto show on Friday.

The Sonata was designed to compete in the mid-sized segment, which is at the heart of the US car market.—Internet

Sinopec, ExxonMobil ink LNG deal

BEIJING, 4 Dec—China’s largest refiner Sinopec Corp yesterday signed a 20-year agreement to buy liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the ExxonMobil-led Papua New Guinea LNG project, in a move to meet rising domestic demand for energy.

Under the agreement, Sinopec will purchase 2.7 million tons of LNG per annum for 20 years from the project, the company said in a statement yesterday.

The LNG will arrive at Qiangdao in Shandong province, where Sinopec will build a LNG terminal, said the statement. The first phase of the Shandong terminal will have a capacity of 3 million tons per year. Sinopec plans to expand the facility to 5 to 6 million tons per year in the second phase, said Wang Zhigang, senior vice-president of Sinopec Corp.—Internet

India agrees to let Japanese companies set up industrial park near Bangalore

NEW DELHI, 4 Dec—The government of the southern Indian state of Karnataka has agreed in-principle to establish a “Japanese village” which is an exclusive industrial park for Japanese companies near Bangalore, reported the Press Trust of India on Thursday.

The report quoted a senior industrial department official of the state as saying that a meeting of the dialogue and monitoring committee by the local government and five Japanese companies and Japan External Trade Organisation would be held on 15 Dec to discuss the modalities for the village.—Xinhua

The UN Secretary-General’s message on International Volunteer Day

5 December 2009

This month in Copenhagen world leaders have an unprecedented opportunity to reach an ambitious and equitable agreement on climate change. On International Volunteer Day 2009, I would like to highlight the important role volunteers all over the world play in protecting our planet and advancing the important causes for which the United Nations works.

The recent “Seal the Deal” and “Volunteering for our Planet” campaigns are just the latest examples of how volunteers are helping to shape our world. The decisions and actions of individuals may seem insignificant in the face of global challenges. But when people choose to devote their time and energy they can, together, make a difference.

Volunteerism is a source of community strength, resilience, solidarity and social cohesion. It can bring positive social change by fostering respect for diversity, equality and the participation of all. It is among society’s most vital assets.

Today, I thank all volunteers worldwide who contribute their time to environmental protection, peace and development. In particular, I salute the 8,000 United Nations Volunteers who support the work of the United Nations. In doing so, I would like to pay tribute to the two UN Volunteers who were killed in Afghanistan in October, and all those who have lost their lives volunteering for the United Nations. Their service and dedication to the United Nations will not be forgotten.—UNIC
China, Africa to further cooperation in science, technology

Cairo, 4 Dec — China and Africa look forward to deepening cooperation in various fields, especially science and technology, industry, agriculture and environment, said Chinese and Egyptian officials at a science and technology expo, which opened here on Thursday.

In the opening ceremony of the Expo on Innovative Technologies and Products in Asia, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said that his country aimed to build a complete innovation system and to promote economic and social development.

Egypt, Minister of Higher Education and the State for Scientific Research of Egypt, Dr Hani Hillal, said that his country reaffirms the support for scientific and technological cooperation between China and Africa.

“China exhibition is an important forum to know more about the progress China has reached in scientific and technological fields, and it is also an important for-}

Brazil, Germany cooperate on World Cup and Olympic Games

BRASILIA, 4 Dec — Brazil and Germany signed a cooperation agreement on Thursday for 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic Games to be held in Brazil.

The agreement provides the expansion and modernization of infrastructure in Brazil, and the transfer of experience in public security, acquired by Germany for hosting 2006 World Cup.

“We will teach what Brazil wants to learn. It is important that there is cooperation between fans and police,” said German Chancellor Angela Merkel during a Press conference after meeting with President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in Berlin.

She said officers from all countries that participated in the 2006 World Cup went to Germany to support the safety of the event. According to Merkel, it has made contact with fans easier.

The German chancellor also cited the transmission of the games on giant screens mounted on the streets of the cities that hosted the event, which could be done also in Brazil in 2014.

President Lula admitted “problems generated by social issues”, but defended Brazil as host of the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic Games.

He attributed the success of World Cup to the “extraordinary nature of the Brazilian people”, but warned that the outcome of the final match may cause “a wee problem” on security.

Staff members supervise the working condition of the desulfurizing installation system at the Huanneng Fuzhou Power Plant in Fuzhou, southeast China’s Fujian Province, on 1 Dec, 2009. More than 180 new technologies and products with Chinese proprietary innovations highlighted the three-day exhibition, kicking off here on Thursday. —Xinhua

Ukraine to send anti-terrorist unit to fight Somali pirates

KIVY, 4 Dec — Ukraine will send soldiers from an elite special forces unit to combat Somali pirates, local media reported on Thursday. A total of 25 soldiers from Ukraine’s anti-terrorist unit “Alfa” will soon travel to the Gulf of Aden region, Valentyn Nalivaychenko, chairman of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), was quoted as saying.

The SBU’s “Alfa” is considered the best-trained and equipped unit of any branch of Ukraine’s armed services. The mission of the “Alfa” soldiers would be to protect Ukrainian and other nations’ commercial ships transiting waters off Somalia, as part of the European Union’s Atalanta naval operation.

Foundation Rocks E Indonesia

JAKARTA, 4 Dec — An earthquake with a magnitude of 5.0 struck North Sulawesi Province in eastern part of Indonesia earlier on Friday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency said.

The quake took place after midnight with the epicentre at 21 km north east of Melongauane town of the province and at a depth of 37 km, the agency said.

Indonesia sits on a vulnerable quake hit zone so called the “Pacific Ring of Fire” — Xinhua

Floating causes up to 7,000 Uruguayans to flee home

MONTEVIDEO, 4 Dec — Flooding from heavy rains has forced nearly 7,000 people to flee their homes in northern Uruguay, the Uruguayan National System of Emergencies (SNE) said on Thursday. The most affected city is Paysandu, 390 km northwest of Montevideo, with 3,500 evacuees, while almost 2,800 people were evacuated in Salto, some 100 km north of Paysandu, due to the overflow of Uruguay River between Uruguay and Argentina.

According to the SNE, the situation in Artigas, 600 km north of Montevideo, is normal to evacuate starting to come home.

In 2007, the worst flooding in 50 years led Uruguayan authorities to declare national disaster and evacuate more than 12,000 people.

Russia announces new space crew

MOSCOW, 4 Dec — A special Russian commission announced on Thursday the final list of the crew members for the 22nd mission to the International Space Station (ISS).

All three astronauts, including one Russian, one American and one Japanese, had passed their final tests before flight with extraordinary scores last weekend, said Russia’s astronaut training centre. The mission is scheduled to leave for the ISS on board the Soyuz TM-16 spacecraft on 21 Dec. — Xinhua
Nine schoolchildren, four teachers die in road mishap in India

NEW DELHI, 4 Dec.— At least nine schoolchildren and four teachers were killed when the van they were travelling in plunged into a pond in Nagapattinam in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu on Thursday, a senior police official said.

“The nine school children and their teacher drowned while 11 others were rescued after the mishap which took place as the driver of the vehicle lost control and fell into the lake, police said.”

The bodies of the deceased have been handed over to their parents and relatives while those injured were admitted to the Vedaranayam general hospital and other private hospitals, he said.

Indonesian passenger plane lands with incomplete landing gear

JAKARTA, 4 Dec.— A plane operated by an Indonesian airline, Merpati Nusantara, made an emergency landing in El Tari airstrip in West Nusantenggara Province’s capital city of Kupang after one of its landing gears failed to deploy properly, a local TV station reported on Thursday.

Before the pilot decided to undertake the emergency landing, Merpati’s Fokker 100 made landing attempts up to six times. The plane finally made the emergency landing after it emptied its fuel tanks in the air, Metro TV reported.

The aircraft’s 88 passengers and six crew were unjured, and the aircraft suffered no serious damage. Some of the passengers fainted after they reached the airport lobby and found out what was really happened to the plane they boarded at.—Internet

Rain, winds, record heat hit Northeast on same day

PORTLAND, 4 Dec.— A storm packing blustery winds and driving rain knocked out power to thousands of homes and businesses in the Northeast on Thursday before giving way to sunny skies and record high temperatures — all in the same morning.

Utility officials reported sporadic power outages from Maine to New Jersey after wind knocked down trees and power lines early on Thursday. Winds reached up to 49 mph in Brunswick, Maine, while the Isle of Shoals off the coast of New Hampshire recorded a 61 mph gust. In New Jersey, wind speeds topped out at 45 mph.

But the rain and wind that battered the region early Thursday gave way to sunny skies and unseasonably high temperatures by mid-morning. —Internet

Love cannot be measured with money

The big news in Nanjing, Jiangsu province, and all over China over the weekend was a 10-year-old girl’s birthday party.

The party was extraordinary in itself. The girl’s classmates and their parents watched a magic show and listened to some child stars sing. In addition, they won prizes, including jewelry, laptop computers, and three automobiles. But what made the party news-worthy was the girl’s decision to donate all the money she collected from hongbao, or red envelopes, to victims of last year’s earthquake in Sichuan. Her birthday gifts alone amounted to 200,000 yuan ($29,282).

93-year-old survives fall from fourth floor

A 93-year-old resident of Xi’an, Shaanxi Province, miraculously escaped death after falling from her fourth-floor house last on Thursday.

The woman, surnamed Pan, said she was only gazing out the window when she slipped and fell. Three awnings on the third and second floors, and an electrical wire on the first floor prevented her fall.

Though the woman’s pelvis was fractured, she is in a stable condition, doctors said.

S Africa tightens security as World Cup draw looms

JOHANNESBURG, 4 Dec.— South Africa has beefed up security around Cape Town for the World Cup draw to be held on Friday to prevent any incident and reassure fans about visiting one of the world’s most crime-plagued nations.

With an average of 50 people killed every day, fears about crime have dogged South Africa since it was named host nation.

With Africa’s first World Cup just six months away, the country has been recruiting new police, putting them through tough training, and buying hi-tech new equipment.

About 100,000 people are expected to watch the draw at the Waterfront in Cape Town. More than 100 million people will likely watch the event on television in 200 countries around the world.—Internet

Photo taken on 2 Dec, 2009 shows a triple of super air inflatable tabernacles, standing at a height of 10 metres, 5 metres, and 4.6 metres, respectively, on the cultural square of Wuyuan County, east China’s Jiangxi Province. The PVC-quality air tents, a product developed by a local producer, are equipped with air-conditioning, electrical circuits, and other facilities, and capable of fire prevention and earmarked for occasions on exposition, celebration, etc.

The three tents have been reserved for an order from Great Britain.

Fast treatment ups heart attack survival

A US study shows dramatic improvement in heart attack victims by employing new time-saving strategies in coordinating their emergency care. Healthcare professionals said they found obtaining improvement in “door-to-balloon” times — the time from when a heart attack patient enters the hospital to the time blood flow is restored to the heart by opening a blockage with angioplasty — the more likely their patients were to survive.

Two tonnes of snakes, turtles seized

Cambodian authorities have seized nearly two tonnes of live rare snakes and turtles being smuggled in a boat to Vietnam and arrested two men, police said.

Authorities stopped the boat early on Wednesday and found 1655 kilos of snakes, mostly pythons, and 263 turtles weighing a total of 317kg, said deputy provincial police chief Chan Savouen.

Police arrested two men, aged 17 and 20, who were caught transporting the creatures along the Bassac River in southeastern Kandal Province to neighbouring Vietnam, he said.

Police said some of the reptiles had been illegally hunted in Cambodia and others were thought to have been trafficked from neighbouring country.
Lt-Gen Myint Swe attends…

(from page 1)

On arrival at the briefing hall of Myaungdaga river water pumping project near Myaungdaga village in Hmawby Township, officials concerned reported on supplying of irrigation water. Lt-Gen Myint Swe urged them to make effort for supply of water on schedule and inspected supply of water to the main canal. Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe enjoyed collective cultivation of summer paddy on Phayagyi field in Myaungdaga village, and growing of black gram and sunflower on the field of Dagundine.

17th cash-donation ceremony for supply of clean drinking water to rural regions held

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Dec—Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs held its 17th cash-donation ceremony for supply of clean drinking water to rural areas at Town Hall of Nay Pyi Taw Development Affairs Committee here this morning.

Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein accepted K 2.93 million donated by staff of departments, enterprises, factories and workshops under the ministry, K 1.5 million by Union Solidarity and Development Association, K 1 million by Myanmar War Veterans Organization, K 2 million by Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, K 500,000 by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, K 5 million by Myanmar Holdings Limited and presented certificates of honour to them.

Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt accepted K 2.5 million donated by Myanmar Economic Corporation, K 40 million by Shinhayayaw Bank Ltd., K 2 million by Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and Daw Aye Aye Tun, K 500,000 by Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein and Dr Daw Sandy Aung, K 1.5 million by staff of Ministry of Industry-2 in Nay Pyi Taw, K 1 million by Lt-Gen Mya Thin Shwe, Daw May Nyunt Yi and family and presented certificates of honour to them.

Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe accepted K 25 million donated by CEO Dr Naing Htut Aung of Gateways Group of Company, K 6 million by Dr Naing Htut Aung, Daw Wai Wai Yin and family, K 3.5 million by Dr Ohn Kyaw of Max Myanmar Company, K 2.7 million by U Win Naing, Daw Than Than Swe and family of WEG Company, K 2.5 million by U Tint Hsan of AEC Construction, K 2.5 million by Dr Kyin Yi, Daw Aye Aye Khang and family and presented certificates of honour to them.

U Sein Hla, Dr Nyo Nyo Win and family presented K 2.5 million, Capt Thaung Shein (Retd) (Chairman of All Bus Lines Supervisory Committee), Daw Khin Than Nwe and family, U Nay Aung of IGE Company, U Aung Saw Naing of Shwezaung Company, U Pyae Phyo Aung of Moe Kyalsin Company and U Thein Tin Win of Moon Ray Company K 2 million each to Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein who presented certificates of honour to them.

Next, U Thein Aung of Theing Company, U Sai Tit Aung of Naangtong Company, U Thant Zin of Han Sein Thant Company donated K 2 million each, U Tha Hay of Original Group Company, U Shein Win of Teten Company, U Saw Lwin (Daw Tin Kyi), U Kyaw Naing (a) U Kyongshin, Daw Myint Myint Than and family presented K 1.5 million each to Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Col Thein Zaw who presented certificates of honour to them.

Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs accepted US 1,200 donated by Ambassador U Wunna Maung Lwin, wife Daw Lin Lin Htet and embassy staff (Geneva), K 1.25 million by U Thein Aung and Daw Yi Yi Aye of Tet Nay Win Ice Cream, K 1.25 million by Shwe Myanmar Nyeinchanye and Kabakyaw Lottery, K 1 million by U Chaukhak, Daw Kyi and family, K 1 million each by U Sein Hla of Diamond Mercury Co Ltd, U Yan Win of A Company and presented certificates of honour to them.

Member of Civil Services Selection and Training Board U Hla Myint Oo accepted K 1 million each donated by U Thein Min of Shwe Thapray Company, U Thein Lwin of TSTZ Company, U Myo Aung and Daw Myo Myo Min of Yu Pan Myaing Landscaping Company, U Aung Hwa of Golden Flower Company, U Chit Khai of Eden Construction and K 500,000 by Nay Pyi Taw Timber Transportation and presented certificates of honour to them.

Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw accepted K 500,000 each donated by U Nay Win Aung of Thawdawin Company, Asia World Company. Successors of late U Ayin and Daw Nwayaung, U Toe Aung, Daw Khin Lay and family, Daw Khin Thi Tun, U San Lwin Tun, U Aung Myint Tun and family, U Aung Moe, Daw Naing Naung and family and presented certificates of honour to them.

U Khin Zaw, Daw Khin Aye Kyu and family, Daw Khin Yi and family, U Sein Hlaing and Daw Myint Myint Aung of Swedaw Thingantaik, Pan Thi Company, U Khin Hla, Daw Khin May Kyi and family donated K 500,000 each, and S&P Dar Company K 200,000 to Secretary U Tun Kyi of Nay Pyi Taw Development Affairs Committee.

 Altogether 81 wellwishers presented a total of K 186.13 million plus US 1200 in toady’s cash-donation ceremony.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Col Thein Nyunt said that rural water supply has been given top priority. The minister then expressed gratitude on behalf of the Government to the public for their active role in nation-building tasks.

After the ceremony, ministers, and deputy ministers viewed the documentary photos of drinking water supply to rural areas.

In response to instruction of the Head of State on implementation of 10-year project for supply of drinking water to rural regions in April 1999, 8,042 villages in Sagaing Division, Magway Division and Mandalay Division, and 15,183 villages in other states and divisions, and a total of 23,225 villages in the whole country were registered to be in need of clean drinking water.

Now, clean drinking water has been supplied to 8,042 villages from three divisions in the dry region, 14,979 villages from other states divisions, thus hundred per cent and ninety nine percent completed respectively. A total of 23,021 villages in states and divisions, ninety nine percent have been supplied with water.

Development Affairs Committees have spent a total of K 8418.14 million out of fund of the committees from 2000-2001 to 2008-2009 fiscal year and the budget for 2009-2010 fiscal year is K 2541.81 million.

As rural regions water supply tasks have been carried out with added momentum, 34 townships in Sagaing Division, 25 townships in Magway Division, 23 townships in Mandalay Division, totaling 82 townships in the dry region now enjoy clean drinking water.

Moreover, each and every village in all 19 districts has one tube well each now and for supply of adequate drinking water. The ministry is carrying on sinking of more tube wells for each village.

Commander attends World AIDS Day 2009

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Dec—A ceremony to mark World AIDS Day 2009 was held at the City Hall in Mandalay on 1 December. Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe made an opening speech on the occasion. Afterwards, the commander, the mayor and officials concerned presented awards to outstanding students.

The ceremony came to an end after Mandalay Division Myanmar anti-narcotices association staged a role play.

After the ceremony, the commander and party viewed exhibitions on activities of AIDS control and vehicles designed to raise public awareness.—MNA

MNA
Government has never discriminated…

(from page 1)

Accounts Maj-Gen Hlaing Myint, senior military officers, heads of department, members of Kokang Region Provisional Leading Committee, and local people.

At the venue, the State Flag was hoisted, BGF members took oaths of a Tatmadaw member, and they were decorated with Tatmadaw rank insignias.

The commander, the director of People’s Militia and Frontier Forces, and U Pe Sauk Chain of Kokang Provisional Leading Committee delivered speeches.

U Pe Sauk Chain in his speech said that the formation of the new border guard force in Kokang Region will go down in the annals of the history of national races; that now they have embraced the chance of discharging national defence duties in cooperation with the Tatmadaw, upholding Our Three Main National Causes; that they will win the full support of the people because they have been bestowed with the rights to proudly shoulder national defence duties, holding arms legally in the nation; that the government has never discriminated against any national races whether they reside in hills or plains but treated them equally in successive periods; and that in response,

(See page 9)

Officers and other ranks of the border guard force are urged to have loyalty both to the nation and to the people, and diligently shoulder national defence duties.

The formation of the new border guard force in Kokang Region will go down in the annals of the history of national races.
Government has never discriminated…

(from page 8)

Officers and other ranks of the border guard force are urged to have loyalty both to the nation and to the people, and diligently shoulder national defence duties.

Following the launch of the border guard force, the members together with local people sang the song “Pyidaungsu ei htar wara ahla mya” in Kokang language, and enjoyed themselves, taking part in Kokang traditional dances.

In the afternoon, a luncheon to mark the launch of the border guard force was hosted at the basic education high school in Tongchein Myothit, Laukkai. The members are pleased with the fact that as a result of the emergence of a border guard force in Laukkai District, they will be able to grab the opportunity to discharge national defence duties with a sense of national unity and Union Spirit, legally holding arms.

Local people are in support of the border guard force because they will be able to lead a peaceful life, enjoying security and everlasting peace of border areas.

The members are pleased with the fact that as a result of the emergence of a border guard force in Laukkai District, they will be able to grab the opportunity to discharge national defence duties with a sense of national unity and Union Spirit, legally holding arms. Local people are in support of the border guard force because they will be able to lead a peaceful life, enjoying security, and everlasting peace of border areas. The government provides members of the border guard force with the same supplies as that for a Tatmadaw member: salary, rations, military uniforms, and health care.
Shwe FM Radio Station

Byline & Photos: Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)

Chairperson Daw Nan Maw Lao Hsai and responsible persons.

Composer Min Chit Thu.

Sound editing room of Shwe FM Radio.

(From page 16)

Chairperson Daw Nan Maw Lao Hsai of Golden Wave Co Ltd said that for the time being, Shwe FM Radio Station has a workforce of 62; that such artists and intellectuals as Ko Min Chit Thu, Ko Saw Kha Hse, U Thit Min and U Zin Yaw Maung Maung aired broadcasts in cooperation with foreign experts; that apart from entertainments, a great variety of programmes included programmes on educative talks, general knowledge, sport, regional development, and traditions and cultures of national races; that they also aired broadcasts in Mon and Kayin languages; and that they set a channel for a particular area; and that those wishing to place advertisements might contact No 131/133, Botataung Pagoda Street, Botataung Township, Yangon (Ph: 701093, 09-8566271, or 09-8570408).

Programme Director, as well as composer Min Chit Thu said that they were trying to set up their own style of presenting selected morning songs and evening songs; that people could listen to the radio songs and news programmes, while doing something; that unlike a cassette player, a radio presented various programmes one after another; that it benefited the people as the programmes included news about natural disasters in time; and that he believed that Shwe FM Radio Station would gradually win the support of the people, and that he was proud of that.

While in Shwe FM Radio Station, I happened to observe functions of broadcasting and editing sections.

Shwe FM Radio Station broadcasts its programmes from 6 am to 10 pm daily, such as Shwe FM’s answers to questions by Shwe regions, Shwe Top 5 Myanmar Video, songs chosen by popular vocalists, choose songs to sing, shining stars, Shwe movies, interviews with celebrities, Shwe Star Couple, Shwe region and Shwe stars, Shweyinbyin news, sports news, foreign news, interviews with famous vocalists and their songs, favourite songs of youngsters. Shwe region development, Shwe region health care, new Shwe programmes, Shwe offspring, different styles of singing same songs, and Shwe prayers. It is planning to present new programmes such as Shwe library, Shwe journey, and Shwe Kid’s programme along with better programmes.

With a boom in FM radio across the nation, today’s teenagers stay in touch with the FM radio world.

In an interview, Ma Ekari, a radio FM fan from Yangon, said, “We are very pleased with a growing number of new FM programmes. We like FM radio because it presents a wide variety of programmes all day. Its programmes can be received in many regions through different channels, so I think I will take a radio wherever I go.”

Shwe FM Radio Station presents some programmes on festivities with the participation of fans. Now, it has launched a new programme on a singing contest, in which anyone above 16 years can contend for the prizes, singing songs in Kayin language. It drew up a shortlist of tentative candidates at KanthaU Hall in Hpa-an, Kayin State, on 28 November 2009. The final will take place on 11 December. The awarding ceremony will be held on a grand scale the following day.

Local people, young and old, in Kayin State, Mon State, Bago Division and Taninthayi Division have been fans of Shwe FM Radio. Anyone can keep in touch with FM radio now.

Translation: MS

Sound editing room of Shwe FM Radio.

Ma Ekari, a fan of FM radio.

Composer Min Chit Thu.

byline & photos: maung maung htwe (mna)

chairperson of golden wave co ltd daw nan maw lao hsai and responsible persons.
World political powers focus on Afghanistan as Somalia time bomb ticks

KAMPALA, 4 Dec—The United States, Britain and other major world political players have announced that they are planning to send tens of thousands of troops to Afghanistan to fight the Taliban who have links with al Qaeda, a terrorist group.

The announcement by these powers especially the US which said on Tuesday that it was sending 30,000 more troops to Afghanistan has attracted a lot of international attention at the cost of other conflicts elsewhere in the world, according to analysts. For the military experts meeting here, Somalia is a time bomb that the world is not giving much attention.

Somalia, like Afghanistan, has al Qaeda cells, which according to Nathan Mugisha, the commander of the African Union peacekeeping force in Somalia, are getting stronger.

Already the al Shabaab, an insurgent group fighting the Somali government, has captured key strategic points along the Somali-Kenya borderline, according to reports. The Islamist outfit, which has links with al Qaeda, has embarked on recruiting youths from different parts of the world including Africa.

Four kids hurt in crash at Ind day care centre

INDIANAPOLIS, 4 Dec—Two robbery suspects fleeing police lost control of their sport utility vehicle and crashed into a day care centre on Thursday, injuring four children and an employee in a shower of bricks and other debris, police said.

About 15 children were inside the Stepping Stones Child Care when the SUV slammed into the brick building on the city’s north side about 12:15 pm, Lt Jeff Duhamell said. Kara Hardister, who runs the church-owned day care center, said the crash sent bricks and debris flying into a room for 3-year-olds just before their afternoon nap time.

The car burst into flames shortly after the crash, but officers quickly extinguished the fire.

“IT’s just senseless, just senseless, that innocent people have to go through this,” Hardister said.

One of the four children was in critical condition but stable at Methodist Hospital, while the other three had non-life-threatening injuries, Duhamell said.

A woman working at the day care centre suffered a broken leg when she was struck by bricks, and another person was injured when the SUV hit a car during the police chase. Duhamell said those injuries weren’t serious.

Measles dropped worldwide by 78 percent

GENEVA, 4 Dec—Measles deaths worldwide fell by 78 percent 2000-08, but 450 deaths a day are still too many, World Health Organization officials in Switzerland said.

Measles deaths dropped an estimated 733,000 in 2000 to 164,000 in 2008, but global immunization experts warn of a resurgence in measles deaths if vaccination efforts are not sustained because of funding cuts, according to analysts. For the military experts meeting here, Somalia is a time bomb that the world is not giving much attention.

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Argentina takes wind power to villages

BUENOS AIRES, 4 Dec—Argentina is building wind-power capacity to electrify villages steeped in poverty and underdevelopment as part of a project funded by the World Bank.

Argentina was badly hit by the financial crisis of 2008 and before that suffered a series of economic setbacks due to disputes between the government of Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner and farmers and workers.

Argentina has been slow to emerge from the crisis while its neighbours, particularly Chile and Brazil, are well on the road to economic recovery. This year Fernandez renewed contacts with the International Monetary Fund as part of an effort to get the country back into the capital markets. The wind-power project is led by Helix Energy, a global renewable energy company based in San Diego, but financed by the World Bank.

Helix said Thursday it will collaborate with Argentine distributor Edal RE Inc. in Buenos Aires to provide 90 to 100 wind turbines as part of an estimated $9.5 million rural electrification programme.

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Nobody was hurt in the collision and the ships sustained little damage.

The accident occurred at 8:45 am Japan Time, and led to the postponement of the anti-piracy exercise. The ships, the Onami and the Sawagiri, are to return to their home bases, where investigations will look to find the cause of the collision.

The accident occurred 130 km south of Cape Ashizuri in Kochi Prefecture.—Xinhua

Water found on moon might not accelerate exploration

VIENNA, 4 Dec—The discovery of water on the moon might not significantly speed up the establishment of manned stations there, according to someone who has been there, US astronaut Harrison H. Schmitt.

Schmitt landed on the moon in 1972 aboard Apollo 17, the last manned mission to touch down on the lunar surface. Being a geologist, he is among an elite group of 12 Americans who are the only people to have walked on the moon to date.

Addressing the Austrian Academy of Sciences here on Wednesday about the “origin and history of Moon”, he expressed his interest in the recent discovery by US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) scientists of evidence of water on the moon. However, he pointed out that was not enough to promote the establishment of manned stations there. In his view, the key issue about water on the moon was not its scarcity but rather how to use it.

Xinhua

Football official says unemployment flat at 9.1%

PARIS, 4 Dec—The unemployment rate in France’s mainland stands at 9.1 percent in the third quarter, virtually stable compared to the second quarter, the official statistics bureau INSEE announced on Thursday.

There were 2.58 million people registered jobless in the third quarter, marking a first flat of unemployment rate from the end of last March.

The 2008 first quarter witnessed a unemployment rate of near seven percent, a record low in the past 25 years, according to official figures. The 2008 first quarter witnessed a unemployment rate of near seven percent, a record low in the past 25 years, according to official figures.

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Poachers kill endangered S African rhinos

JOHANNESBURG, 4 Dec—South Africa has lost hundreds of animals, including 13 black rhinos, an endangered species, over the past five years due to poaching, media reports said on Thursday quoting official figures.

Environment Minister, Buyelwa Sonjica said of the 253 animals killed between 2005 and this year, 114 were killed in national parks.

Business Day quoted Sonjica saying measures such as a complete ban on the sale of ivory were being mooted.

In January, a syndicate of 11 suspected poachers, including three Chinese nationals, were arrested for a spate of rhino slaughters in South Africa’s top wildlife areas.

Over the years, rhino poaching has escalated in South Africa, where a number of animals were killed in both state and private reserves last year, including at the world-famous Kruger National Park.

Both the near-threatened white and the critically-endangered black rhino were poached.

Poachers usually shoot rhinos for their distinctive horn which is hacked off and sold for medicinal or ornamental use at huge profits.—Internet

A black rhinoceros and her calf in Kenya. South Africa has lost hundreds of animals, including 13 black rhinos, an endangered species, over the past five years due to poaching, media reports say quoting official figures. —Internet

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The 2008 first quarter witnessed a unemployment rate of near seven percent, a record low in the past 25 years. However, during the following one year and a half, the number of jobless people in mainland France increased by 60,000.

Although the unemployment didn’t go worse and the economy showed timid but consecutive resilience in the past two quarters, the recession still has great pressure to French labour market.

Right in October, the number of jobless people surged more than 50,000, totalling the unemployment population in the mainland to 2.63 million and pushing the rate close to 9.3 percent.

The European Commission forecasted early this month that France will experience this year an economic contraction by 3.2 percent, with an unemployment rate of 9.5 percent at the year end. It also predicted an economic growth of 1.2 percent next year for France, but the unemployment rate will climb further to 10.2 percent.—Xinhua

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Michigan said in a Rosen of the University of study co-author Allison B researchers said. Tobacco will be snuffed out but the benefits of quitting Americans are smoking, $100 to $150. Other reports point to homes hotels and guest lodges raise their prices. will by put off by exorbitant costs as lion during the monthlong tournament, 2010 and spend an estimated $850 million to descend upon South Africa in mid-2010 during next year’s World Cup.

Organization’s pandemic alert scale, The still at Level Six, the highest of the World Health flu A/H1N1 outbreak has been stabilized in the that Malaysia could not take this lightly although the second wave was kept at bay, said Liow, adding that the hemisphere had recorded a rise in new cases. He said that 95 percent of countries in the northern Anderson to Mexico, and heart disease,” Robert between vitamin D action and heart disease,” Robert School said in a statement. “This study revealed that a critical enzyme absolutely required for production of the vitamin D hormone has a genetic variant associated with the development of congestive heart failure.”—Internet

Tourism chiefs warn against 2010 World Cup greed
CAPE TOWN, 4 Dec — South African soccer and tourism officials on Thursday warned hotels, airlines and restaurants not to scare off future tourists by hiking prices during next year’s World Cup. With some 500,000 tourists expected to descend upon South Africa in mid-2010 and spend an estimated $850 million during the monthlong tournament, tourism officials say they fear tourists will by put off by exorbitant costs as hotels and guest lodges raise their prices. Media reports have said that some hotels are planning to charge as much as $250 for a basic room that normally would be $100 to $150. Other reports point to homes along Cape Town’s exclusive Atlantic seaboard renting for $1,000 to $35,000 a day — with one house reportedly renting for a whopping $1 million for the duration of the tournament. But Cape Town-based tourism official Calvin Giffler said viewing the tournament as a cash cow will harm South Africa’s burgeoning tourism industry. Up to 290,000 extra visitors are expected to come over the five years after the tournament because of South Africa’s heightened visibility, said Giffler, adding that price gouging could scare them off.

Malaysia on alert for new A/H1N1 wave
KUALA LUMPUR, 4 Dec — The Malaysian health authorities have been on high alert for a possible second wave of A/H1N1 influenza due to the increase of new cases in the northern hemisphere, a local newspaper said on Friday. Malaysia must remain vigilant as the outbreak was still at Level Six, the highest of the World Health Organization’s pandemic alert scale, The Star quoted. Malaysian Health Minister Low Tiann said, adding that 95 percent of countries in the northern hemisphere had recorded a rise in new cases. The authorities had stepped up efforts to ensure the second wave was kept at bay, said Low, adding that Malaysia could not take this lightly although the flu A/H1N1 outbreak has been stabilized in the country.—Xinhua

46 more people die of A/H1N1 flu in Turkey
ANKARA, 4 Dec — Another 46 more people died of the influenza A/H1N1 in Turkey, bringing the death toll to 241 in the whole country, announced the Turkish Health Ministry on its website on Thursday. The ministry said in a statement that 223 were hospitalized due to the virus, and 86 were in intensive care and 62 on life support. The ministry said that 35 percent of the dead were people below 50 years old who did not have any known chronic diseases. Health officials reiterated that the best way to get protected from the A/H1N1 flu was vaccination, adding that a mass vaccination programme, covering people from 6 months old to 24 years old, was under way. Turkey reported its first A/H1N1 flu case in May and the first death from the disease in October.

Targeted ultrasound reduces biopsies
CHICAGO, 4 Dec — Targeted breast ultrasound may reduce the need for biopsies for women under age 40, US medical researchers said. Senior author Dr Constance Lehman of the University of Washington in Seattle and the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance and colleagues conducted two studies where targeted ultrasound effectively distinguished between potentially cancerous masses and benign findings in young women who had detected areas of concern in their breasts. The first study included 1,123 ultrasound examinations of women under age 30, while the second included 1,577 ultrasound examinations of women ages 30-39. The researchers concluded high-quality breast ultrasound should be the diagnostic tool of choice for young women seeking care for breast lumps and other suspicious signs and symptoms. “It is time we used ultrasound to reduce unnecessary morbidty and costs associated with more aggressive invasive approaches,” Lehman said in a statement. The findings of the two studies were presented at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America in Chicago.—Internet

46 more people die of A/H1N1 flu reaches 24 in Egypt
CAIRO, 4 Dec — Egypt reported on Thursday one more death case of A/H1N1 flu, bringing the country’s death toll to 24, said Health Ministry in a statement. A 56-year-old man died of A/H1N1 virus in Alexandria, 220 km northwest of Cairo, said the statement, adding that the man suffered from fever, dyspnea and renal failure. Earlier on Thursday, a 23-year-old pregnant woman died of A/H1N1 virus in Egypt’s southern governorate of Aswan. Up till now, Egypt has reported 3,558 cases of the novel flu in the most populous Arab country. Egypt confirmed its first influenza A/H1N1 death case on 19 July of a 28-year-old Egyptian woman, who was back from Saudi Arabia after making Umrah (pilgrimage to Mecca at any time of the year).—Xinhua

Heart failure linked to vitamin D gene
ANN ARBOR, 4 Dec — US researchers linked congestive heart failure to a gene variant affecting vitamin D activation. The study, published in the journal Pharmacogenomics, showed patients with high blood pressure who possess a gene variant that affects an enzyme critical to normal vitamin D activation are twice as likely as those without the variant to have congestive heart failure. “This study is the first indication of a genetic link between vitamin D action and heart disease,” Robert U Simpson of the University of Michigan Medical School said in a statement. “This study revealed that a critical enzyme absolutely required for production of the vitamin D hormone has a genetic variant associated with the development of congestive heart failure.”—Internet

Carrie Kulinski, standing, and Gilda Pollock demonstrate VoiceScan, a voice activated ultrasound technology system introduced by GE Medical Systems at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) meeting in Chicago, Illinois on 30 Nov, 2003.—INTERNET

Obesity snuffs out less smoking benefits
ANN ARBOR, 4 Dec — The good news is that fewer Americans are smoking, but the benefits of quitting tobacco will be snuffed out by US adults getting fatter, researchers said.

“Obesity plays a large role in life expectancy,” study co-author Allison B Rosen of the University of Michigan said in a statement. “Despite the fact that we are smoking less, body-mass indexes are going up. These increases in obesity are overtaking these changes in smoking behaviours.”

Using a technical analysis that includes forecasting future trends based on historical data, researchers found that despite declines in smoking, the remaining life expectancy of a typical 18-year-old would be held back by 0.71 years by the year 2020 because of the increased body-mass index of the general population. If all US adults became nonsmokers of normal weight by 2020, their life expectancy would be forecast to increase by 3.76 years or 5.16 quality-adjusted years.

However, if past trends continue, 45 percent are projected to be obese by 2020. The findings were published in the New England Journal of Medicine.—Internet

Internet
Chelsea's Kalou out for two weeks

London, 4 Dec — Chelsea's Salomon Kalou has been ruled out for "around two weeks", the Premier League leaders said on Thursday, after sustaining a thigh tear in Wednesday's League Cup loss to Blackburn Rovers. Chelsea's statement said the 24-year-old Ivory Coast star had "sustained a minor tear to his upper left thigh" and that the injury would sideline him for "around two weeks". The Blues, five points clear at the top of the table from champions Manchester United, are away to Manchester City in the league on Saturday.

Kalou, who played all 120 minutes of Wednesday's match at Ewood Park, where Blackburn eventually won 4-3 on penalties to go through to the League Cup semi-finals, now seems set to miss the trip to City's home ground. Manchester United, are away to Manchester City in Manchester, are away to Manchester City in the match this season follow-

Roma lead quartet into Europa League last 32

Paris, 4 Dec — Roma, Athletic Bilbao, PSV Eindhoven and Sporting Lisbon qualified for the knockout stage of the Europa League on Thursday. At Rome's Stadio Olimpico, Roma beat Basel 2-1, Midfielder Benjamin Huggel headed the Swiss side after overcoming CSKA Sofia 1-0. The Serie A heavyweights went ahead when Mirko Vucinic finished a sweeping move with a low, left-footed strike just before the hour but there was a huge scare for Claudio Ranieri's men with three minutes to play when Basel's Swiss international striker Alexander Frei flicked a shot against the bar.

Roma now lead Basel by a point in Group E, with Premier League representatives Fulham a point behind the Swiss side after overcoming CSKA Sofia 1-0 in west London through Zoltan Gera's first-half equaliser.

Walcott woe adds to Arsenal's problems

London, 4 Dec — Arsenal suffered a hamstring injury and would miss Saturday's Premier League match against Stoke City. Walcott, 20, played in the second half of the 3-0 league loss to Chelsea on Sunday before being substituted. Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger selecting reserve players, missing out on the Gunners' League Cup defeat by Manchester City to the same scoreline on Wednesday. Former Southampton star Walcott has yet to complete a match this season following shoulder and knee problems. Arsenal's Alex Song is suspended for the Emirates Stadium fixture against Stoke but right-back Bacary Sagna is set to return after an ankle injury. "We had Sagna out injured but, normally, he will be available," said Wenger. "However, Theo Walcott will not be available."

Pepe confident Real Madrid lingerie line will be a hit

Madrid, 4 Dec — Real Madrid defender Pepe said Thursday that he was confident that the lingerie line for women which the Spanish giants plan to launch next year would be a hit. "I am sure that a club with so much history and such special fans will have supporters who will buy them," the 26-year-old told a news conference following a training session.

The slips and bras bearing Real's logo will be made by Valencia-based textile company Lingerie Kiss and they will hit store shelves in March alongside the souvenir jerseys, t-shirts and other club souvenirs already on offer. Leaked photos of models wearing the lingere were published in sports daily Marca on Wednesday and quickly circulated around the Internet.

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Google redesigns its home page

BEIJING, 4 Dec — Google has redesigned its home page though users may not initially see the difference.

On opening the main Google site only the search box appears with the familiar Google logo and the “Search” and “I’m Feeling lucky” buttons below. But the links at the top of the page and below the search buttons are missing and only slowly come into focus as the user moves their mouse.

Marissa Mayer, vice president of search products and user experience at Google, said web users appreciated Google’s “clean, minimalist approach”. Writing on the official Google blog she says, “For the vast majority of people who come to the Google homepage, they are coming in order to search.” But she adds, “For those users who are interested in using a different application like Gmail, Google Image Search or our advertising programs, the additional links on the homepage only reveal themselves when the user moves the mouse.” Mayer said the new-look homepage had been trialled extensively by employees at Google’s headquarters in the U.S. and they had “come to really like it.”—Xinhua

A snowboarder and skier make a run down the slope during opening day at Arapahoe Basin Ski Area near Dillon, Colo., in this 13 Oct. 2006.—INTERNET

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**WEATHER**

Friday, 4th December, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers has been isolated in Taninthayi Division, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Rakhine States, Mandalay Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (4°C) to (5°C) below December average temperatures in upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Magway Division and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was Loilem (1°C), Haka (2°C), Namsan(4°C), Finlaung and Heho (6°C) each. The noteworthy amounts rainfall recorded was Kawthoung (0.12) inch.

Maximum temperature on 3-12-2009 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 4-12-2009 was 58°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 4-12-2009 was 75%. Total sun shine hours on 3-12-2009 was (9.3) hours approx. Rainfall on 4-12-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, at Kab-a-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (111.69) inches at Mingaladon, (122.09) inches at Kab-a-Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southeast at (13:30) hours MST on 3-12-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 5th December 2009: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Kachin State, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in Shan State, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (40%). State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated light rain in the extreme Northern Myanmar areas.

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**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR** Saturday, 5 December, 2009

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**MRTV-3 Programme Schedule**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Transmissions</th>
<th>Times</th>
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<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 - 07:30am) MST</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Local Transmission**

* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights
* The Longest Solar Eclipse of the 21st Century
* Ancient Han-Lin
* Sand Sculptures on Beautious Beach Chaung Tha
* Myanmar Footwear and Bags
* May My Prayers be answered
* Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Seawaters (Part-5)
* Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights

**Europe/ North America Transmission**

* Signature Tune
* Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights
* The Longest Solar Eclipse of the 21st Century
* Ancient Han-Lin
* Sand Sculptures on Beautious Beach Chaung Tha
* Myanmar Footwear and Bags
* May My Prayers be answered
* Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Seawaters (Part-5)
* Myanmar Modern Song
* Myanmar Traditional Novitiation Ceremony
* The Famous Floating Market
* Myanmar Movies Impact
* Anmarapa Bargaya Monastery
* Myanmar Modern Song
* Showcase of Myanmar Fabrics and Designer Wears
* Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm
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

Shwe FM Radio Station
Byline & Photos: Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)

In my youth, there were not as many choices of entertainment programmes as we have at present. As a youngster, I liked listening to the radio and reading as my pastimes, especially listening to the radio has been my favourite hobby since my childhood.

There was a boom in radio broadcasting, one of the electronic media, in the 1920s. Radio programmes became worldwide popular as a news medium in the 1930s.

Broadcasting systems of radio stations are of two types: AM (Amplified Modulation) and FM (Frequency Modulation). AM system is common, and with it, programmes can be sent to faraway places. FM serves as a medium of AM, and programmes broadcast with FM system can be received in the short distance.

In radio, most of the programmes are entertainments, especially music programmes. Large radio stations air radio plays, and many programmes broadcast with FM system can be received in the short distance.

In this byline, I would like to introduce Shwe FM Radio Station.

Shwe FM Radio Station launched its trial run from 15 August to 31 September in 2009. It has been broadcasting according to its programmes since 1 October.

Its programmes can be received in Kayin State, Mon State, Bago Division and Taninthayi Division. In Bago Division, its programmes can be received in Nyaunglebin, Toungoo, Pyay and Minhla, over a

(See page 10)