SPDC Chairman’s Trophy Golf Tournament (2009) held

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec.—The State Peace and Development Council Chairman’s Trophy Golf Tournament (2009) took place with 36 teams from central offices and ministries at City Golf Course and Yepyar Golf Course here on 5 and 6 December.

Vice-Chairman of the SPDC Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, SPDC Member General Thura Shwe Mann, Prime Minister General Thein Sein, Secretary-1 of the SPDC General Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), the Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department, members of the committee for organizing the tournament, and participants.

Golfers took positions at the designated places. The Secretary-1 opened the tournament by teeing off the tracer ball.

Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Tournament Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung also drove the tracer ball to open the tournament.

At the first-day 18-hole leg, golfers from the 36 teams, the first 18 teams in City Golf Course, and the rest, in Yepyar Golf Course, contended for the trophy. The second-day 18-hole leg was held in the two golf courses at 6 am today. All the events ended in the afternoon.

The awarding ceremony was held at City Golf Course at 6 pm today, which was attended by the Secretary-1, senior military officers, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department, members of the committee for organizing the tournament, and the participants.

Lt-Gen Tha Aye of the Ministry of Defence presented second prize for the team handicap event to Ministry of Transport team, and third prize to Forestry Ministry team.

Lt-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence presented second prize for the team scratch event to Transport Ministry team, and third prize to Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs team.

Minister U Aung Thaung awarded teams that won best loser prizes in team event (Handicap & Scratch), and winners of Most Birdie, Most Par, Longest Drive and Nearest Pin prizes. Lt-Gen Ko Ko of Ministry of Defence awarded first, second and third prize winners in individual event (Handicap). Lt-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence awarded first, second and third prize winners of individual event (Scratch). Lt-Gen Ohn Myint of Ministry of Defence and ministers awarded teams that won best shot prizes and Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin awarded those who stood between fourth and thirteenth in individual event (Handicap). Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt awarded those who stood (See page 8)
Monday, 7 December, 2009
Strive together with the government for regional development upholding Our Three Main National Causes

The formation ceremony of the border guard force of Kokang Group in Shan State (North) Special Region (1) took place at Si-aw Region, Laukkai District, Shan State (North) on 4 December.

The government has put into action the programme to transform national races armed groups, which have returned to the legal fold, into armed border guard forces for State security and stability and peace of border areas.

The government has never discriminated against any national races whether they reside in hills or plains but treated them equally in successive eras.

The formation of the new border guard force in Kokang Region will go down in the annals of the history of national races. And the border guard forces are to be loyal to the national people are to exert more effort hand in hand with the government for regional development taking full advantages of peace prevailing in the region.

Information Minister attends Myanmar Sarsodaw Day, respect-paying ceremonies

YANGON, 6 Dec—Organized by Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, Myanmar Sarsodaw Day for 1371 ME and a ceremony to pay respects to doyen literati were held at Yangon City Hall here this morning. Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and guests paid respects to doyen literati and presented cash assistance and gifts.

It was also attended by Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa,Supreme Court Judge Dr Tin Aung Aye, departmental heads and officials of the Ministry of Information, Chairman of MWJA U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), vice-chairmen and CEC members, chairmen of Township Writers and Journalists Associations donors and guests.

Joint Secretary-2 U Ko Ko (Ko Ko Sethmu Tetkatho) of MWJA acted as master of ceremonies and read out the agenda. Secretary Dr Tin Tun Oo (Dr Tin Tun Oo) of MWJA read out the message of chairman of MWJA.

CEC member U Myat Khaing (Myat Khaing) of MWJA introduced doyen literati to the guests.

Treasurer of MWJA Police Col Khin Maung Tun (Retd) (Khin Maung Tun-Lannmadaw) read out the list of doyen literati and donors.

Afterwards, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and guests paid respects to doyen literati.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presented K150,000 each to doyen literati, namely Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Daw Maung Maung (Khin Tetkatho Maung Maung Khin), U Win Maung (Min Yu Wai), Col Saw Myint (Retd) (Hnin Thamein), U Kyi Aye (Hsinbyukyun Aung Thein), Dr Khin Maung Nyunt, U Hla Kyiing (Paragu), U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung), Bogale Tin Aung, U Tin Soe (Thaquad), U Kyaw Win (One-O-One Kyaw Win Maung), U Maung Galay (Thauk Kyaing Maung Galay) and U Than Oo (Pyi Soe Min).

Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Supreme Court Judge Dr Tin Aung Aye, departmental heads, vice-chairmen and CEC members of MWJA also presented cash assistance and gifts to them.

Afterwards, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan greeted doyen literati. On behalf of doyen literati, U Kyi Aye (Hsinbyukyun Aung Thein) gave words of advice.

U Ko Ko (Ko Ko Sethmu Tetkatho) spoke words of thanks. There are 131 doyen literati aged 80 and above this year. Of them, 84 attended the ceremony. CEC members of MWJA will visit the homes of the remaining doyen literati who could not attend the ceremony to pay respects to them.

Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and party and guests pay respects to doyen literati.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 7 December, 2009

PERSPECTIVES

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

People’s Desire

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A lost son returns to Iraq killing fields

HALABJA, 6 Dec — Six families nervously awaited the DNA tests on the young man who returned from Iran. They wondered: Could this be their son who was just an infant in 1988 and somehow lived through a deadly chemical attack by Saddam Hussein’s regime?

There was absolute silence as the judge announced the lab results. The man, who called himself Ali, was deemed to be the sole surviving child of 58-year-old Fatima Mohammed Salih, who had lost her husband and all her other six children in the poison gas clouds that covered the mostly Kurdish city of Halabja.

For the first time in more than two decades, they embraced. “I’m in a dream,” said 21-year-old Ali Pour as he comforted the weeping woman. The reunion on Friday in Baghdad’s scorched-earth offensive The alleged mastermind of the Halabja attack, Saddam’s cousin known as “Chemical Ali” Hassan al-Majid, is among regime officials who have been sentenced to death for the Kurdish crackdown and other crimes. The trial specifically on Halabja is still under way. Internet

Three Iraqis wounded in Baghdad attacks

BABHDAD, 6 Dec — Three Iraqis were wounded in separate attacks in Baghdad on Saturday, a well-informed police source said.

Two people were wounded when a bomb attached to their civilian car detonated in Baghdad’s southern neighborhood of Saidiyah, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. A policeman was seriously wounded in a sniper shot while he was on duty in the al-Wathiq square in Baghdad’s central neighborhood of Karrada, the source said.

Also in the day, a roadside bomb struck a US military patrol near the office of the Sunni Endowment in Baghdad’s northern neighborhood of Adhamiyah, the source added without giving further details about the incident as the US troops sealed off the scene.

The US military did not confirm the incident yet. Xinhua

Egypt says Swiss ban on minarets a “grave mistake”

CAIRO, 6 Dec — Egyptian Foreign Minister Abul Gheit has criticized a Swiss vote to ban the construction of minarets as a “grave mistake” and said Europe could no longer lecture his country on human rights, a local newspaper reported on Saturday.

The top Egyptian top diplomat said Thursday night the Swiss people will “some day come to realize what a grave mistake they have made” in voting for the ban, the Egyptian Gazette daily reported. “The human rights situation in Egypt is good... Europe cannot talk to Egypt about its human rights record at a time when Switzerland is supporting a ban on minaret building,” Abul Gheit was quoted as saying. Xinhua

Taleban militants detained near Afghan capital

KABUL, 6 Dec — Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) backed by NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in an operation detained a group of Taleban militants in Logar Province some 60 km south of Afghan capital Kabul on Saturday, a Press release of the alliance said.

“An Afghan-international security force detained a handful of militants in Logar Province including a key Taleban facilitator responsible for move-ment and training of militant elements in the area,” the statement said.

A lost son returns to Iraq killing fields

In this photo taken on 4 Dec, 2009, Ali 21, left, embraces his mother Fatima Mohammed Salih 58, right, for the first time in more than two decades in Halabja, Iraq. Internet

Pakistan’s army troops stand guard at the site of Friday’s suicide attack, covered with tarp, on 5 Dec, 2009 in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Internet

13 militants killed, two commanders arrested in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 6 Dec — At least 13 militants were killed and two commanders arrested in an ongoing military operation on Saturday in different parts of Pakistan, local media reported.

Backed by helicopter gunship, security forces bombed militants’ hideouts in Orakzai tribal agency, as a result seven militants were killed and 11 others wounded, the private TV Geo news reported. In aerial strikes, three vehicles and five hideouts of Pakistan Taleban chief Hakimullah Mehsud’s aides were also destroyed.

According to military sources, two close associates of Baithullah Mehsud, the slain chief of Tehreek-e-Taleban Pakistan (TTP), were arrested in Hangu, a city adjoining Orakzai. Meanwhile, Pakistani security forces claimed to have killed as many as six more extremists and injured eight others in fresh fierce clashes with militants in parts of South Waziristan tribal area on Saturday morning, the channel reported.

Besides, police and security forces claimed to have arrested as many as 20 suspected persons Saturday during joint search action in Swat valley in North West Frontier Province (NWFP). Arms and ammunitions including a rocket and 16 Kalashnikovs were also recovered from the restive area. MNA/Xinhua

Two killed, one injured in party shooting in W Canada

OTTAWA, 6 Dec — Two men were killed and a third injured when some assailants opened fire at a party on Friday night in the western Canadian city of Winnipeg, police said on Saturday.

The violence happened midnight at a home in the Manitoba capital, where about 20 or 30 young people were having a party, reports reaching here said. Police received call and arrived at the scene, finding the three victims.

Initial investigation suggested that a number of unidentified assailants shot the three victims with a large calibre weapon.

Police said it was too soon to say whether each of the victims had been targeted. MNA / Xinhua

Inter.
Indian PM heads to Russia seeking closer ties

NEW DELHI, 6 Dec — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh flew to Russia on Sunday on a visit to cement ties between the two allies and finalise a deal to expand cooperation on nuclear energy.

Singh's two-day trip, his sixth to Russia as prime minister since 2004, was also designed to firm up defence deals that have been hit by delays in delivery, the Press Trust of India news agency said.

Singh will hold talks with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin as part of an annual leadership meeting between the two countries which forged a strategic partnership deal in 2000, officials said.

“This is a partnership based on the solid foundation of long-standing friendship, deep mutual trust and strong convergence of interests,” Singh said in a statement before leaving. The prime minister, who visited Washing-

ton last month, said he hoped the Russia trip would focus on defence, civil nuclear energy and science issues.— Internet

After long delay, Airbus A400M to fly for first time

PARIS, 6 Dec — The Airbus A400M military plane is scheduled to take to the skies on its first test flight late next week after a long delay that has caused headaches for European defence group EADS and the loss of a client.

The A400M was to replace ageing military cargo carriers in several European air forces but its development has been dogged by a series of technical problems.

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

The delays have cost millions and forced Airbus to renegotiate its contracts with several customers. South Africa has dropped its order entirely and Britain has mulled switching its business to US manufacturers.

The Airbus Military A400M at Airbus Military’s Seville, Spain plant. The Airbus A400M military plane is scheduled to take to the skies on its first test flight late next week after a long delay that has caused headaches for European defence group EADS and the loss of a client.—Internet

China makes new carbon aircraft brake disk

XI’AN, 6 Dec — China has invented a carbon aircraft brake disk, breaking foreign companies’ monopoly on the product. The brake disk, developed by the Xi’an Chaoma Technology Co Ltd affiliated with the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation, passed experts’ appraisal here on Friday.

The brake disk has proprietary intellectual property rights and its function has reached international level, according to the appraisal meeting. The disk costs half of the similar products overseas and can save about 100 million yuan (14.6 million yuan) a year for the Chinese civil aviation industry.—Internet

Suspected kangaroo smuggler arrested in Indonesia

SURABAYA, 6 Dec — An Indonesian man has been arrested on suspicion of smuggling 10 rare kangaroos from their native habitat of New Guinea Island.

Five were dead when the man was caught off-loading the marsupials in the East Java provincial capital of Surabaya, police there said. It was not clear which species of kangaroo were found. They are also native to Australia. The five surviving animals were given to an animal sanctuary.

The suspect faces up to five years in jail and 100 million rupiah ($11,000) fine if found guilty of breaching Indonesian conservation laws. Maj Widarmanto of the East Java police said: “The man said that he bought the kangaroos for two million rupiah ($212) each.”—Internet

The kangaroos were being transported by sea.—Internet
Sub-Saharan Africa’s first One-Stop Border Post opens between Zambia, Zimbabwe

CHIRUNDU, 6 Dec — The Sub-Saharan Africa’s first One-Stop Border Post (OSBP), the Chirundu Post, at the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe opened on Saturday with the aim to reduce the delays of clearing Customs and immigration and further promote regional economic growth.

The background message from the Commerce Ministry of Zambia showed that the Chirundu border post, one of the busiest inland border crossing in the southern and eastern Africa, has been experiencing long delays of clearing Customs and immigration. Zambia President Rupiah Banda, who launched the opening ceremony of Chirundu Post together with Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe, said in a speech that the opening of Chirundu OSBP comes at a critical phase in Zambia-Zimbabwe economic relations and demonstrates partnership that embraces the benefits of regional trade.

Banda noted that a country or region that has inefficient transport and border clearance systems would find it difficult to trade competitively.

“Chirundu’s strategic location as a node of trade between southern and eastern Africa and its role as gateway between two busy regions has made the port an ideal choice as a pilot site for the one-stop border control programme,” the President said. — Xinhua

Zimbabwe holds first competition on martial arts

HARARE, 6 Dec — The Zimbabwe Kickboxing Association is scheduled to hold the national Martial Arts Games for the first time on Saturday at Girls High School here. The association usually holds the Unity Cup competition in December. However, this year they have decided to change their plans and will stage the Zimbabwe Martial Arts Games that will feature kickboxing, karate, boxing, taekwondo, judo, kungfu and wrestling, according to The Herald.

Athletes will compete in their respective disciplines. ZIKA chairman Venga Mugadza said the competition was the first of its kind to be held in this country. “This is whereby all martial arts disciplines will display their skills and fighting techniques and it is the first of its kind to be held in Zimbabwe,” said Mugadza.

“We usually have the Unity Cup competition but we have decided to extend our hand to our brothers and the tournament. "We also have female athletes that are going to take part and we have seven disciplines that have confirmed their participation and the idea behind this event is to try and unify all martial art sports.” — Xinhua

Three missing after ship capsizes in East China Sea

XIAMEN, 6 Dec — Three people were missing after a sand-loaded ship capsized in East China Sea on Saturday. Local authorities said.

The accident happened at 12 pm off the coast of Dongshan County of east China’s Fujian Province. Four people were missing after the accident and one was later rescued. The ship was hit by high waves and the waves had brought difficulties to rescue work. The searching team is still looking for the three. — Xinhua

Int’l oil investment shrinks 20% amid financial crisis: OAPEC

CAIRO, 6 Dec — Oil ministers of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) said Saturday that international investment in petroleum has shrunk 20 percent due to the global financial crisis. They made the remarks at the 83rd OAPEC ministerial meeting, during which a chorus of satisfaction over the current oil prices and production quota, set one year ago by Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in Oran, Algeria, was heard.

“The international companies have reduced their investments by 20 percent in 2009, compared to 2008, especially in the area of research and exploration,” said Egyptian Minister of Petroleum Sameh Fahmi. Fahmi, who chaired the meeting, said the ministers discussed the methods of enhancing cooperation between OAPEC members and improving the companies working under the organization to face the global downturn challenges. — Xinhua

Unknown gunmen kill three UNAMID peacekeepers in Darfur

KHARTOUM, 6 Dec — Three soldiers of the United Nations and African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) were killed and two others seriously injured in an attack by unknown gunmen in the restive Sudanese region of Darfur, the hybrid peacekeeping mission said in a statement on Saturday.

Three land cruiser pick-ups, with a UNAMID platoon of 20 Rwandan peacekeepers on board, were attacked by a group of unknown armed men in Saraf Umra when escorting a water tanker on Friday, the statement said.

Two Rwandan soldiers were shot dead at the scene and a third one died later, while two soldiers were seriously wounded and taken to El-Fasher, the capital city of the North Darfur state. The UNAMID says they arrived in the area after two weeks of return fire with restraint due to the presence of civilians.

“The UNAMID condemns in the strongest terms this criminal attack against its forces and calls on the government of Sudan to identify the perpetrators, arrest them and bring them to justice,” the statement said.

The incident brought the death toll of UNAMID peacekeepers to 20 since the mission assumed its tasks in Darfur in January 2008. — Xinhua
After 50 years, UK ministry shuts down UFO unit

LONDON, 6 Dec — Britain’s Ministry of Defence has had a close encounter of the credit crunch kind. After more than 50 years of service, the ministry has shut down its UFO investigation unit, saying it could no longer justify the cost of running the service.

The ministry said it had found no evidence of a threat to Britain or proof of the existence of extra-terrestrials, despite the public sending thousands of reports of UFOs to a ministry hotline and email address. It said it held no opinion on the existence of otherwise of alien life, but added it had “no specific capability for identifying the nature of such sightings.”

Scientists, lawyers mull effects of home robots

PALO ALTO, 6 Dec — Eric Horvitz illustrates the potential dilemmas of living with robots by telling the story of how he once got stuck in an elevator at Stanford Hospital with a droid the size of a washing machine.

“We remembered thinking, ‘Whoa, this is scary,’ as it whirled around, almost knocking me down,” the Microsoft research team wrote. “Then, I thought, ‘What if I were a patient?’ There could be big issues here.”

We’re still far from the sci-fi dream of having robots whirring about and catering to our every need. But little by little, we’ll be sharing more of our space with robots in the next decade, as prices drop and new technology creates specialized machines that clean up spilled milk, or even provide comfort for an elderly parent.

Longtime exposure to secondhand smoke ups risk of breast cancer

LOS ANGELES, 6 Dec — Women who are exposed to secondhand cigarette smoke for a prolonged period of time may face greater risk of breast cancer, a new study suggests.

The risk also applies to women who never smoke cigarettes themselves, according to the study appearing in the December issue of Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention, a journal of the American Association for Cancer Research.

In the study, researchers at the Northern California Cancer Center’s Berkeley office collected detailed information via questionnaire from more than 57,000 women in the California Teachers Study, then followed them for a decade. Detailed questions helped the researchers to determine whether age at exposure, setting of exposure or amount of exposure influenced the risk of developing breast cancer.

The researchers examined the risk of developing breast cancer among women who had never smoked tobacco products, but who had a history of exposure to secondhand smoke either at home, at work or in social settings. Participants also had no history of breast cancer. In the years since completing the questionnaire, 1,754 women developed invasive breast cancer. — Xinhua
Construction Minister inspects Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) construction project

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec—Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint inspected the construction of Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) undertaken by special projects implementation group (3) on the bank of Letpan Chepau in NyaungU Township, yesterday afternoon.

On arrival at the briefing hall, the minister heard the report on the progress of pre-engineering tasks presented by Project Superintending Engineer U Han Soe. The minister called for working with awareness, completing jobs on schedule, minimizing wastes and ensuring work safety as the bridge is the longest among the Ayeyawady spanning bridges implemented by the ministry.

Later, the minister viewed the waterway of the Ayeyawady River, pre-engineering tasks and feasibility study from the briefing hall. Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) will be of combined girder type and reinforced concrete with the length of 11,431 ft. Its water clearance will be 262 ft wide and 52 ft in height.

The minister and party also inspected the gravel pavement with machinery between mile posts (11/1) and (11/2) carried out by Myatnsoe Co through B.O.T system. He urged the officials to meet the set standards.—MNA

Tatmadaw Football Tourney (2009) continues

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec—The first round matches of the 48th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament 2009 continued at designated sports grounds this evening.

In Group (A) match held in Eastern Command Zone (Taunggyi), South-West Command and North-East Command were held 1-1 draw while Npi Taw Command eliminated No. 22 LID 5-0, in Group (B) match in South-West Command Zone (Pathein). Eastern Command team crippled No. 77 LID 6-2 while Defence Services (Navy) held a narrow win over No. 55 LID 1-0, in Group (C) in North-West Command Zone (Myonwa), Coastal Region Command team-A beat Western Command team-B 1-0 while Defence Services (Air) swept to a 4-1 win over Triangle Command team-A.

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec—MOGE to boost exploration of oil and gas

The Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy held a meeting to coordinate work for boosting exploration of oil and gas in 2009-2010 financial year at its meeting hall No.1 here this morning, with an address by Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thu.

It was also attended by Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay, heads of departments and enterprises under the ministry, general managers of oil fields and officials.

In his address, the minister urged them to make endeavors to boost exploration of oil and gas, to improve the efficiency of the staff in the technological field, to effectively apply advanced technologies in exploring oil and gas, and to work together for ensuring completion of the ongoing projects on schedule.

Oil fields general managers reported on arrangements for boosting oil and gas exploration in their respective fields; the director (Oil Exploration and Development), on completion of drilling new oil wells in 2009-2010 fiscal year and Chief Executive Officer (Geology), on programmes for drilling machines for searching new oil fields. The managing director of MOGE, the director-general of Energy Planning Department and the deputy minister gave supple-mentary reports.

The minister instructed them to make endeavors for boosting oil and gas exploration and exploring new oil wells, to take thrifty measures in spending funds in line with financial regulations, to carry out staff welfare tasks and follow-up programme for oil exploration and development.—MNA

New Yangon-Meiktila (Special) Bus Line Service launched

YANGON, 6 Dec—Under the supervision of Meiktila District Peace and Development Council, a ceremony to launch new Yangon-Meiktila (Special) Bus Line Service of Mandalay May Express was held at Mandalay May Express Highway Bus Terminal near Shweboontha Pagoda on 1st Limadaw Street in Meiktila on 29 November.

Chairman of Meiktila District PDC U Sein Oo, Vice-Chairperson Daw Nu Nu Yoi of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs’ Association and Chairman of Mandalay May Express U Khin Zaw formally opened the new bus line.

Mandalay May Express manages to run new express buses along Yangon-Meiktila (Special) route in addition to Yangon-Mandalay special transportation services. For detailed information on the schedules, dial 01-637337 and 01-6368008 for Yangon, 02-78991 and 0968077272 and 0968007222 for Mandalay and 064-246432 and 095020181 for Meiktila.—MNA

Respect paying ceremony of UM-2 on 26 Dec

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Dec—The first MB students who were at University of Medicine-2 in 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1991 will organize a ceremony to pay respects to faculty members, at Chatrium Hotel, Yangon on 26 December. All old students are requested to take part in the ceremony without fail.

Those wishing to make donations may contact Dr Aung Naing Win (Ph: 09-50-20779), Dr Soe Tun (Ph: 09-50-41934), Dr Lwin Han (Ph: 09-50-20116), Dr Than Tha Su (Ph: 09-51-12311), Dr Mya Thandar Soe (Ph: 09-51-04958), Dr Nu Nu Lin (Ph: 09-51-04042), Dr Aung Kyaw Oo (Ph: 09-50-35577), Dr Myint Myat Tun (Ph: 09-50-21718), Dr Khin Khin Soe (Ph: 09-51-31217), Dr Maung Maung Latt (Ph: 09-50-07249), Dr Khaing Mar Myint (Ph: 01-535744) and Dr Zaw Zaw Oo (Ph: 09-50-27652).—MNA
SPDC Chairman’s Trophy Golf Tournament (2009) (from page 1)

Major Khin Maung Latt of the Ministry of Defence won first prize with 126 strokes, U Win Kyaw of Ministry of Forestry second prize with 128 strokes, and U Soe Han of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee third prize with 131 strokes in individual handicap event.

U Zaw Min of Ministry of Transport secured first place with 160 strokes, Major Maung Maung Myint of Ministry of Defence second place with 161 strokes, Capt Hein Min Htet of Ministry of Defence third place with 161 strokes in individual scratch event.

The best loser prize went to Ministry of Labour in team handicap event whereas best loser prize for team scratch event went to Ministry of Culture.


After the prize-presenting ceremony, the golfers of the teams posed for group photos.

Commander attends opening of 48th Charity fair of Hninzigon Home for the Aged

YANGON, 6 Dec—The opening of 48th Charity fair of Hninzigon Home for the Aged was held on the lawns of the centre here yesterday evening.

The chairman of executive committee of the home extended greetings at the ceremony and the chairman of 48th Charity fair organizing committee explained the purpose of holding the festival.

Next, vocalist Myint Myint Kyi sang a song in honour of the fair.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Win Myint, the chairman of executive committee and the chairman of the organizing committee formally opened the festival.

The commander and officials presented gifts and donated cash to the older persons and viewed the food stalls opened at the fair.

The commander addressed the workshop for division fire prevention in the meeting hall of University of Nursing in Lanmadaw Township here this morning.

The meeting came to an end after the officials presented preventive measures for fighting fire. The commander and guests viewed the documentary photos covering the use of multi-purpose fire extinguishers and equipment.

The trophy winners of Defence Ministry team in team handicap event and team scratch event seen with SPDC Chairman’s Trophies.—MNA
Dwellers of Danyawady, Ayeyawady Division have access to Pyinsawadi FM

Byline & Photos: Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)

From 21 May 2009 onwards, it broadcast programmes without repeats for 12 hours at a stretch from 7 am to 7 pm. From that time on, it has been broadcasting programmes without repeats for 16 hours a day, from 6 am to 10 pm.

Its programmes can be received at frequency of 88.0 MHz, covering over a radius of 25 miles in Sittway, Rakhine State, and over a radius of 25 miles in Pathein, Ayeyawady Division.

Its daily programmes include historical backgrounds of pagodas; Dhamma Pada; Buddha Pujanya songs; Dhamma (religious) songs; morning traditional Myanmar songs; today’s cuisines, modern songs of remembrance; studio songs; studio songs for youngsters; morning news; songs about Ayeyawady region; English oldie songs; favourite songs (modern) of presenter; common songs; heart to heart; stars of remembrance; songs, each sung by two singers; songs of superstar vocalists; Nay Pyi Taw news; foreign songs; international news; guide to VCD and Website; today’s science; messages; letter for daughter; auspicious prayers (Ayeyawady); sports; top ten; herbs, radio poet; music therapy; bookshelf in airwaves; worldwide famous scientists; series of classical songs; FM Music Show; songs of message (Rakhine); Pyinsawadi FM for Kits Pyinsawadi FM Selection; Album Collection, collection of personal feelings; random talks; by the way; and sweet dreams.

In general, programmes are designed for entertainment, so advertisers can bring their goods and services to the attention of greater number of customers, and can enjoy greater benefits.

Being a congenial radio station of Mandalay FM, Pyinsawadi FM is believed to achieve success that is on a par with the success of Mandalay FM soon.

U Chit Pe, in his early 70s, in his personal opinion about FM radio said, “I pay homage to the Lord Buddha at dawn, then I do meditation every day. And once I switch on FM radio at 6 am in the morning, then I feel very delighted to listen to the programmes of historical backgrounds of pagodas, Dhamma Pada.

An interview with vocalist Kya Pauk (left).

Buddha Pujaniya songs, and Dhamma songs.”

My Bwaly (my mother’s aunt) Daw Than Myint, over 70, said, “I am crazy about film since my youth. Whenever a new film was on, I went there and watched it, taking my children. Now, I am at the old age, so I pay more attention to religious deeds. But I watch on TV and listen to the radio for a short time. So, I want FM radio stations to broadcast classical songs for old people of us. Today, weather reports become more important, so I pay more attention to weather reports.”

Pyinsawadi FM Radio broadcasts weather reports in addition to the programmes of music and general knowledge, thereby contributing to the improvement of the socio-economic life and winning the satisfaction and recognition of local people of Ayeyawady Division and Rakhine State.

The emergence of Pyinsawadi FM Radio helps provide intellectual nutriment and broaden the horizons of the people, so I, an FM fan, extend a warm welcome to it.

Translation: MS

Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin), core transport facility of Mon State

With a view to ensuring emergence of a new, modern and developed nation and improvement of the socio-economic status of the entire people, the government has been building a large number of roads and bridges large and small the length and breadth the nation.

Mon State plays a crucial role in serving the national interest. Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) linking Kyakto Township, Thaton District of Mon State with Waw Township, Bago District of Bago Division, on Yangon-Mawlamyine Road was opened on 12 July 2008 for Mon State to keep pace with Kayin State and Taninthayi Division it shares border with in terms of development.

The Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) is of steel girder type and 1365 feet long. The RC type approach bridge on Kyaktobank is 244.1 feet long and on Waw bank, 783.6 feet long. With the total length of the bridge being 2302.7 feet long, it has 28 feet wide motorway flanked by six feet wide pavements.

The Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) constructed by Myanmar engineers’ own skills, technology and hard work, is the eighth river-crossing bridge in building special project bridges in Mon State.

Ensuring smooth transportation and swift commodity flow, the government is building a cluster of bridges all over the country including 235th bridge called Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin). Thanks to emergence of the bridge, national brethren can now have access to different states and divisions with peace of mind, overcoming the difficulties of traveling from one place to another caused by Sittoung River in the past.

Translation: ZZS

(Myanmar Alin: 4-12-2009)
Egypt finds no dead from ferry crash, ends search

CAIRO, 6 Dec—Egypt ended a search on Saturday for victims of a collision of two Nile ferries without finding any bodies despite initial fears that dozens were missing, a regional official said.

The two craft hit each other near Rashid city in Beheira governorate in north Egypt on Friday. Initial reports suggested several dozen passengers and crew may have been missing as the exact number of people on board the vessels was unclear.

“Rescue units ended the search after they searched an area of two kilometres in the Nile, where no bodies were found,” Beheira Governor Mohamed Sharawy told Reuters. Sharawy also said no statements for missing people were filed since the accident, suggesting all passengers had now been accounted for.

“There is no indication that someone has died in this accident,” Sharawy added.

Public river ferries in Egypt can sometimes be crowded and total numbers being carried are not always recorded, making an accurate count of those involved or missing difficult.

MNA/Reuters

Fifth East Asian Games opens in Victoria Harbor

HONG KONG, 6 Dec—A spectacular performance on the water in Victoria Harbor lifted the curtain on the 5th East Asian Games in Hong Kong, one of the busiest commercial centers in the world.

Chinese State Councillor Liu Yandong declared open the Games, the first international multi-sports tournament ever held in Hong Kong.

The announcement came after a 30-minute art performance with the theme of “Be the Legend,” which is also the slogan of the nine-day games.

Athletes and officials from the nine participating countries and regions aboard boats watched the performance telling a story of Hong Kong growing which is also the slogan of the nine-day games.

Splendid fireworks lit up the clear night sky, dazzling hundreds of thousands of spectators beside the skyscrapers along the coastline.

MNA/Xinhua

IDC predicts IT spending recovery in 2010

SAN FRANCISCO, 6 Dec—Worldwide information technology (IT) spending is expected to achieve modest growth in 2010, returning the industry to pre-recession levels, market research firm IDC said on Thursday.

IDC predicted that global IT spending will rise 3.2 percent next year, bringing the industry back to 2008 spending levels of about 1.5 trillion US dollars.

Hardware, software and services spending will each increase in the range of 2 percent to 4 percent, and emerging markets are projected to drive more than half the new IT industry growth in 2010, IDC said.

“In last year’s predictions, we talked about how a slow global economy would act like a pressure cooker on the IT market, speeding the development and adoption of new technologies and business models,” Frank Gens, senior vice president and chief analyst at IDC, said in a statement.—Internet

FM says Okinawa realignment plan is tough

TOKYO, 6 Dec—Japanese Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada, on his second official visit to Okinawa on Saturday, told the mayor of Ginowan city in central Naha that finding a resolution to the relocation of the US military airfield is proving “tough” for the government. Okada’s trip to Japan’s southernmost prefecture followed a ministerial-level working group meeting at the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo on Friday, during which Washington expressed its mounting concern about the expected delay in resolving the controversy over an alternative site for the heliport functions at the Futenma base in Ginowan.

US officials urged Japan to settle the controversy as soon as possible by implementing an earlier bilateral accord on the matter, first reached in 2006, which would see the relocation of the heliport functions at the Futenma facility, to a less densely populated coastal area adjacent to the Marine Corps’ Camp Schwab in Nago, northern Okinawa, by 2014. The plan involves constructing two runways in a V-shape in the coastal area of Camp Schwab.

During the group’s Friday meeting, the United States described the existing relocation plan as, “the only feasible option”. — MNA/Xinhua

Four men get three to 15 years in jail for stealing pigs

BEIJING, 6 Dec — A court in Wuhan, Hubei province, sentenced four men who had stolen 390 pigs in less than two years to three to 15 years behind bars last week.

The gang was found guilty of stealing a total of 600,000 yuan worth of pigs on 26 different occasions between March 2007 and December 2008.

The gang members used to scale the walls to steal pigs from farms and then transport them to other cities in a truck immediately.

Each of them was fined 100,000 yuan.

Xinhua

A man walks past a earth ball prior to the 15th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP15) at Bella Center in Copenhagen, capital of Denmark on 6 Dec, 2009. The conference will be held from 7 to 18 Dec. —Xinhua

A girl enjoys rare stones in a rare stone fair in Hezhou, southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on 3 Dec, 2009.—Xinhua

A kid smiles on an ice sculpture during a Chinese ice sculpture exhibition in Hwachon-gun, the Republic of Korea (ROK), on 5 Dec, 2009. Some 17 ice sculptures made by Chinese artists are displayed during the exhibition, which kicked off on Saturday.—Xinhua

A woman enjoys rare stones in a rare stone fair in Hezhou, southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on 3 Dec, 2009.—Xinhua

The 6th World Congress of Chinese Medicine 2009 held in Australia 6th World Congress of Chinese Medicine 2009 held in Melbourne as around 700 Chinese medicine scholars and professionals gathered here hoping to further introduce Chinese medicine to the world.

Professor Tao Chiang Lin, national president of Federation of Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture Societies of Australia said in a keynote speech that in the year 2000, Australia’s state of Victoria became one of the first states in the world to successfully implement statutory regulation of Chinese medicine with the passage of the Chinese Medicine Act 2000 and he extended heartfelt appreciation to this vital movement. “Since then we have seen rapid growth and development in the profession of Chinese medicine in Australia,” he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Xinzhuan

A girl enjoys rare stones in a rare stone fair in Hezhou, southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region on 3 Dec, 2009.—Xinhua

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Xinzhuan
**Italian police arrest Mafia number two in Sicily**

ROME, 6 Dec—Italian police arrested two Mafia leaders, Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said, a day after he was accused of links to the organization. Gianni Nicchi, the 28-year-old thought to be the Mafia’s second in command, was found hiding in an apartment a few hundred meters (yards) from the main court in Palermo, Sicily. Berlusconi told journalists. Police also arrested alleged Mafia number three Gaetano Fidanzati, 74, on a street in the northern city of Milan. Berlusconi said, “This is the best response to all the slander made by irresponsible people who, by doing this, are only sling mud” at Italy, Berlusconi said.—INTERNET

**Number of vehicles in Indonesia should be limited for better air quality**

JAKARTA, 6 Dec—The number of vehicles in Indonesia, particularly in the capital city of Jakarta, should be limited in order to have a better air quality, Kompas daily quoted a minister as saying on Sunday. Minister for Environment Gusti Muhammad Hatta said that vehicles produced before 1970s should be limited because they are considered as the biggest polluters as they have imperfect burning system that emits more pollution.

“Hopefully, nobody gets angry. The number of vehicles should be limited by prohibiting old vehicles to reduce emission,” he said at the Green Festival 2009 here on Saturday. The opening ceremony of the event was also attended by Minister for Women Empowerment and Children Protection Linda Amalia Saria and Forestry Minister Zulkiifi Hasan.

**Blast in Ankara kills one**

ANKARA, 6 Dec—One person was killed and another injured by an explosion in the Turkish capital city of Ankara on Saturday, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

The blast occurred in a working place of the Ostim industry district in Ankara, a source told Xinhua, without giving further details.

The cause of the blast is unclear and an investigation is underway, he said.

**Baby boy safe after alleged kidnapping**

TORONTO, 6 Dec—Police discovered a 10-month-old Toronto boy safe and well on Saturday, a day after a 14-year-old girl allegedly abducted him. The teenager was taken into custody, CP24, a Toronto cable news network, reported. Police said the girl claimed the mother had given her permission to take the baby for a walk. Kristen Cunningham, 20, the mother, described the teen as a drifter who had been staying with her. She told CP24 the girl took food and clothing for her son, Kamren, when she left with the boy. “All his clothes are gone, all his diapers are gone, his formula is gone,” she said before the boy was found. Police officers knocked on doors in the neighborhood Saturday, looking for the baby.

**Afghan, US forces launched operation in Taleban hotbed**

KABUL, 6 Dec—The Afghan National Army (ANA) and US Marines on Friday launched the ever-baggiest offensive after the announcement of a new strategy by the US administration, a statement of the Defence Ministry issued here Saturday said.

The operation is designed to extend the government’s writ in Taleban hotbed Helmand Province south of Afghanistan, the statement added. “Involving ANA personnel and international troops, the operation was launched from several directions on Friday morning in Nowzad district with the objective to secure eviction Taleban militants from their hideouts and extend government control,” the statement noted.

**Two men, 43 horses dead in Ohio barn fire**

LEBANON, 6 Dec—A fast-moving fire in a building at the Lebanon Raceway in Ohio killed two men and 43 horses on early Saturday, firefighters said. While the victims had not been officially identified, Jackie Winn, a groomer who works in another barn at the Raceway, told The Cincinnati Enquirer he believes the fire killed his two closest friends, also groomers.

The fire was reported just before 5 am. By the time firefighters reached the building, the 250-by-80-foot barn was a mass of flames. Shane Cartmill, a spokesman for the state fire marshal, said the cause had not been identified, but investigators had ruled out arson.
INVITATION TO TENDER
(TENDER NO. 5 T (CPASA/PW/2009-2010)

1. Sealed Tender is invited by the Public Works, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The Ministry of Construction for the supply of STRAIGHT ASPHALT 80/100 Grade Metric Ton (5000) in Drum.

2. Tender Closing Date is (29-12-2009 at 16:00 hr).

3. Tender Documents and detail specification are available at the Public Works, Procurement section Stores Division, No (40) Public Works, Nay Pyi Taw (9.12.2009) on Payment of (FEC-1000). To enquiry contact Phone No- 067 407577, 067-407581.

4. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender documents officially from Public Works will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Public Works
Ministry of Construction
Ph:067 407577, 407581

Trendy tribe help cool the planet with low carbon life

BEIJING, 6 Dec — Wang Wei makes sure every day that she unplugs all of the electric appliances in her home when they are not in use.

The move has been inspired by the government’s pledge to cut carbon intensity to tackle climate change, said the 31-year-old woman living in Beijing.

The Chinese government unveiled its target last week, ahead of the upcoming climate summit in Copenhagen, Denmark, to trim the amount of carbon dioxide emitted for each unit of gross domestic product by 40 to 45 percent by 2020, compared to the levels in 2005. “I don’t think it is an easy goal without the contribution of every person that lives in the country, so I have decided to do my share,” she said.

Ren Guohe (L), a folk artist, makes clay sculptures in patterns of tigers in Jinzhuang Village of Huaiyang County, central China’s Henan Province, on 5 Dec, 2009, to greet the upcoming year of Tiger of 2010. — Xinhua

Eleven killed in Honduras highway accident

TEGUCIGALPA, 6 Dec — At least 11 people died in a highway accident in central Honduras midnight Friday and their remains weren’t found until early Saturday morning, local police said.

The victims were passengers of a tow truck and its carriage, local police officer Jose Portillo told Xinhua.

The tragedy occurred on the highway near the Palmital community, where the driver lost control of the vehicle and drove it off the roadside cliff. — Xinhua
World Cup 2010: More tickets on sale for South Africa

The first round of ticket sales opened in February 2009.—INTERNET

LONDON, 6 Dec — A global rush for tickets to the 2010 FIFA World Cup finals has begun, a day after the group phase draw was made in host country South Africa. More than a million new tickets are up for sale, now the 32 teams know who, where and when they will be playing. Fans must apply by 22 January, via the FIFA website and national associations. One of the most popular games is likely to be the 12 June clash between the US and England—the foreign nations that bought most tickets in previous rounds. Tickets to oversubscribed matches are allocated by lottery.

FIFA told the BBC that 54,000 applications for newly-released tickets had been made via its website in the first three hours of the sales phase beginning. “They are extremely encouraging figures,” said Fifa spokesperson Delia Fisher, “but it’s important to remember that not allocated on a first come, first served basis.”—INTERNET

Chicken of the sea? Tuna farming getting a boost

KUMANO, 6 Dec — Thousands of tuna, their silver bellies bloated with fat, swim frantically around in netted areas of a small bay, stuffing themselves until they grow twice as heavy as in the wild. Is this sushi’s future? Tuna raised like chickens or cows?

As the world’s love affair with raw fish depletes wild tuna populations, long-running efforts to breed the deep-sea fish from egg to adulthood may finally be bearing fruit. Though the challenges are daunting, the potential profits are huge.

By the end of this year, an Australian company says it will begin selling small amounts of southern bluefin tuna hatched in its fishery. A Japanese firm breeding the more prized Pacific bluefin tuna hopes to start sales in 2013 and ship 10,000 fish by 2015. Whether tuna farming will become viable on a large scale remains an unanswered question. Tuna are much harder to rear than the widely farmed salmon and shrimp.

World Cup 2010: More tickets on sale for South Africa

Hong Kong reports another death case of influenza A/H1N1

HONG KONG, 6 Dec — The Hong Kong health authorities reported another death case of influenza A/H1N1 on Saturday, bringing the number of such cases to 44 in Hong Kong.

The case involved a 95-year-old man who was admitted to the Prince of Wales Hospital on 28 November after developing flu symptoms. He had hypertension, stroke, heart disease and dementia, the Hospital Authority said in an announcement.

The man was confirmed to be influenza A/H1N1 positive on 29 November.

He remained critical and died on Saturday afternoon, the authority said. The influenza A/H1N1 hit Hong Kong in early May. The outbreak of the disease has somehow ebbed after peaking around October. Some scientists said they expected another peak of the flu virus around Hong Kong’s flu season in February. —Xinhua

Brazil promises large participation at 2010 Shanghai Expo

BRASILIA, 6 Dec — Brazil will have large participation at next year’s Shanghai World Expo, the Brazilian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency (Apex) said on Friday.

“We are finalizing the content of our pavilion with an important agenda of cultural representation, tourism and sports, plus a large business agenda. The Expo will be an opportunity for us to be even closer to our largest trading partner (China),” said Alessandro Teixeira, Apex’s president and commissioner for the Shanghai Expo 2010.

The Brazilian Pavilion will be adjacent to those of the United States, Peru and Colombia. To take advantage of the proximity, the commissioners of the four countries have decided to share a cultural programme in open space, as well as a business agenda.—Xinhua

Death toll of Russian nightclub fire rises to 109

MOSCOW, 6 Dec — At least 109 people have been killed and more than 130 others injured as fire ripped through a nightclub in Russia’s Ural city of Perm late on Friday.

The fire engulfed the “Lame Horse” club at about 11:15 pm Moscow time (Friday GMT) during an indoor fireworks display, held to celebrate the venue’s 20th anniversary. Some 230 people, most of them the club’s employees and their relatives, attended the party.

Xinhua correspondents reporting from the scene said the fire had been completely extinguished and all the bodies of the victims had been removed from the cordoned-off building, located in downtown Perm.

Emergency workers and prosecutors were cleaning up the site, where many local people have been gathering and scores of ambulances and emergency vehicles were parked. Local residents told Xinhua the nightclub was a famous spot where local people often dined or danced. They said that, when they arrived at the site on Saturday morning, dozens of rescuers were moving bodies out of the club, some of which had been burned black.

A visitor experiences the visual effect of changing her own hairstyle in a large Science Popularity Tour Show on the theme of Cracking the Hair Secret in Suzhou City, east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 5 Dec, 2009.—Xinhua

INTERNET

The prototype of a solar powered plane flies one meter above the field of the Airport in Duebendorf, Switzerland, on 3 Dec, 2009. Swiss adventure Bertrand Piccard plans to fly around the world to highlight the potential of alternative energy sources. The prototype, HB-SIA, has the wingspan of a jumbo jet but weighs only as much as an average family car.—INTERNET

XINHUA

Malika Menard is crowned Miss France 2009 by Miss France 2008 Chloe Mortaud, left, in Nice, southeastern France, on 5 Dec, 2009. —Xinhua

INTERNET

A visitor experiences the visual effect of changing her own hairstyle in a large Science Popularity Tour Show on the theme of Cracking the Hair Secret in Suzhou City, east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 5 Dec, 2009.—Xinhua

INTERNET

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Monday, 7 December, 2009 13
Messi double keep Barca five clear

MADRID, 6 Dec—Ballon D’Or winner Lionel Messi scored a brace as Barcelona won 3-1 at Deportivo La Coruna on Saturday to restore their five-point advantage over Real Madrid at the summit. Four days after collecting the award for European Player of the Year, Messi turned on the style scoring a brilliant opener and then heading a crucial 80th minute goal after Depor had equalised.—Internet

Benitez hints at Aquilani start after Rovers bore draw

BLACKBURN, 6 Dec—Rafael Benitez dropped a strong hint he will give midfielder Alberto Aquilani his long-awaited first start in a Liverpool shirt next week after a frustrating goalless draw away to Blackburn. The Italian international, a 20 million pounds (22.1 million euros) pre-season signing from Blackburn, forced out of Manchester United’s 4-0 Champions League clash at Wolfsburg after Brown and Gary Neville were.getSimpleName();

Answers to yesterday’s Crosswords Puzzle

LONDON, 6 Dec—Sir Alex Ferguson admits he is struggling to field a recognisable back-four in Wednesday’s Champions League clash at Wolfsburg after Brown and Gary Neville were forced out of Manchester United’s 4-0 victory at West Ham.

Goals from Paul Scholes, Darron Gibson, Antonio Valencia and Wayne Rooney completed a comfortable victory on Saturday for the reigning champions, who are now just two points behind Chelsea following the leaders’ defeat at Manchester City. But the victory was achieved despite Ferguson having to make late changes to his plans when Nemanja Vidic withdrew from the trip to Upton Park after suffering from flu.

Ferguson faces defensive headache as injuries mount

LONDON, 6 Dec—Manchester United’s midfielder Paul Scholes (2nd R) celebrates scoring the opening goal with teammates during their English Premier League football match against West Ham United at the Boleyn Ground, Upton Park in East London.—INTERNET

Spain crushes Czechs to take fourth Davis Cup title

BARCELONA, 6 Dec—Spain won its fourth Davis Cup title on Saturday when the doubles pair of Fernando Verdasco and Feliciano Lopez demolished their Czech opponents to give the hosts an unassailable 3-0 lead. Spain becomes the first country since Sweden in 1998 to retain the Davis Cup, after triumphing last year in Argentina. “It was an incredible moment to return as captain after winning here nine years ago,” said Spanish team captain Albert Costa, who as a player helped Spain to its first ever Davis Cup title in 2000, beating Australia at the same Palau Sant Jordi Arena in Barcelona.

Spain won again in 2004, defeating the USA. On Saturday, Verdasco and Lopez overwhelmed an exhausted Radek Stepanek and Tomas Berdych, who had lost both Friday’s opening singles, 7-6 (9-7), 7-5, 6-2, in what was the Czech pair’s first ever Davis Cup defeat in six matches.—INTERNET

Man City sinks Chelsea to benefit Man United

LONDON, 6 Dec—Carlo Ancelotti’s fantastic free kick gave Manchester City a thrilling 2-1 win over Chelsea at Eastlands on Saturday. The victory also benefited their city rivals Man United as the Red Devils defeated West Ham to chase Premier League leaders Chelsea closer in two points.

Man City suffered an early setback as Emmanuel Adebayor deflected the ball into his own net on eight minutes after goalkeeper Shay Given saved well from Nicolas Anelka. But the Togostriker made amends later by slotting in from close range eight minutes from the interval.

Man City continued to threaten the visitors with quick counterattacks in the second half and Argentina forward Tevez fired home a 56th minute set-piece to give the hosts their first league victory in eight games.

Nigeria draws Argentina, Greece, S Korea in World Cup

LAGOS, 6 Dec—Nigeria will play Argentina in her first match of the FIFA 2010 World Cup after both countries were drawn in Group B alongside South Korea and Greece. It would be the third time the Super Eagles would play the South Americans at the senior level as both sides had met in the group stages at the 1994 and 2002 editions. The Eagles lost on both occasions.

Greece is also a familiar foe as both sides clashed in both countries were drawn in Group B alongside South Korea and Greece. It would be the third time the Super Eagles would play the South Americans at the senior level as both sides had met in the group stages at the 1994 and 2002 editions. The Eagles lost on both occasions.

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Bundesliga leader Leverkusen ties with Hannover

BERLIN, 6 Dec—German Bundesliga leader Bayer Leverkusen tied 0-0 with Hannover and failed to enlarge the gap over second-placed Bremen on Saturday. Hamburg and Hoffenheim staged a goal less draw. Defending champion Wolfsburg shared points with newcomer Freiburg after a two all draw. While Borussia Dortmund humiliated new boys Nurnberg 4-0. Bottom match among Stuttgart and Bochum ended 1-1. New boys Mainz lost to Frankfurt 0-2.—Xinhua
China’s 8% economic growth goal achievable

BEIJING, 6 Dec.—China will, without any doubt, be able to achieve the 8 percent growth in gross domestic product (GDP) this year, a senior Chinese economist said on Sunday.

Yao Jingyuan, chief economist with the National Bureau of Statistics, made the remarks at a fortune forum in Beijing.

However warned that the Chinese economy will still face two major problems next year, slumping overseas market demand and weak driving force on domestic market. Chinese economy rose 7.7 percent in the first three quarters, driven mainly by investment and consumption, but brought down by exports, Yao said.

He stressed more efforts should be made on structural adjustment to shift dependence on the industrial growth to the comprehensive structural adjustment to shift dependence on the consumption to technology renovation, Yao said.

Meanwhile, China should turn its economic growth dependence from resources-intensive consumption to technology renovation, Yao said. Xinhua

Weather

Sunday, 6th December, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr.

M.S.T. During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) below December average temperatures in Northern Shan State, upper Sagaing and Magway Divisions, (5°C) above December average temperatures in Kachin State and about December average temperatures in the remaining areas.

The significant night temperatures were Haka and Loilem (2°C) each, Namnang (6°C), Pauktaw, Lashio and Mindat (7°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 5-12-2009 was 93°F. Minimum temperature on 6-12-2009 was 57°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 6-12-2009 was 67%.

Total sun shine hours on 5-12-2009 was (8.4) hours approx.

Rainfall on 6-12-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, at Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (111.69) inches at Mingaladon, (122.09) inches at Kaba-Aye and (129.41) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Northeast at (09:30) hours MST on 6-12-2009.

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

Forecast valid until evening of 7th December 2009:

Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Rakhine States, upper Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions and generally fair in the remaining areas.

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 7-12-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area:

For 7-12-2009: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area:

For 7-12-2009: Partly cloudy.
**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

**Dwellers of Danyawady, Ayeyawady Division have access to Pyinsawadi FM**

In olden days, radios prioritized news programmes. But, radio programmes at present are various such as entertainments, education, health, social affairs, business and general knowledge, apart from news, thus keeping abreast of other media.

Today, people around the world have turned to the media that is cost-effective. With a radio, a person can enjoy a variety of entertainment programmes, he can choose the programme he likes while doing something and he can stay in touch with latest news. Radio commercials cost much less than other media advertisements, but benefits much greater. So, the radio industry remains flourishing.

In the times of my forefathers and in my youth, radio was the only choice of entertainment. At that time, vocalists had to make a lot of time and efforts for a gramophone record. Myanma Radio was the only stepping stone for a person to be famous nationwide.

In contrast, today there have been so many private-owned FM radio stations according to the modern time.

Pyinsawadi FM Radio Station, a congenial radio station of Mandalay FM Radio, has come into being, working together with local intellectuals and intelligentsia to broadcast programmes that cover Rakhine State and Ayeyawady Division.

Pyinsawadi FM Radio Station launched its trial run on 27 March 2009. Up to 20 May 2009, it broadcasts programmes including repeats three portions a day; from 7 am to 11 am; from 11 am to 3 pm; and from 3 pm to 7 pm.

(See page 9)

**Significant night temperatures**

(6-12-2009)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haka, Loilem</td>
<td>(2°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namsan</td>
<td>(6°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinlaung</td>
<td>(7°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lashio and Mindat</td>
<td>(7°C)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>