Construction Minister looks into progress of two bridges across Ayeyawady River

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Sept—Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) which will be a rail-cum-road facility is under construction.

At the briefing hall of the bridge construction project on Letpanchepaw Bank in Mandalay Region yesterday morning, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint heard reports on construction of the bridge posts, pile cap and cross beams and future tasks presented by Chief Engineer (Bridge) U Shwe Lay.

The minister gave instructions on timely completion of the bridge construction task meeting set standards, efforts to be made for construction task day in and day out, and stockpiling of girdles and construction materials.

He viewed progress of tasks at the project site and construction of approach bridge and left necessary instructions.

Ayeyawady Bridge (Pakokku) is of steel frame type at the upper structure and of reinforced concrete bored pile type at the lower structure. The motor road will be 12,537 feet long and the railroad, 19,403 feet long. The main bridge will be 11431 feet long, the motor way 28 feet wide and the railroad 14 feet wide flanked by pedestrian way three feet and three inches on either side. The clearance will be 262 feet wide and 52 feet high. The facility will withstand 75-ton loads.

At the expanded approach bridge construction site on Mandalay bank of Ayeyawady Bridge (Yadanabon), the minister looked into completion of 512 feet long approach bridge, 850 feet long approach embankment and finishing tasks. He viewed along the bridge and left necessary instructions.

Belu Creek No. 3 Hydropower Project moving into high gear

Byline & Photos: Thet Htet Ko (Bawga Myay)

After a long journey, we finally reached Loikaw, Kayah State. While waiting for the car that would take us to the construction site of Belu Creek No. 3 Hydropower Project, my thoughts followed the torrent of Belu Creek.

From southern exit of Inlay Lake in southern Shan State through Pekhon and Moebye, Belu Creek flows into Loikaw Township, Kayah State, from where it divides into three falls at 2146-foot high place, seven miles to the southeast and finally joined Thanlwin River through Pun Creek.

Belu Creek No. 2 Hydropower Plant constructed in 1960 can generate 168-megawatt electricity. In 1992, No. 1 Hydropower Plant with capacity of 28-megawatt was established. And, Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 is now implementing No. 3 Hydropower Project.

Approach water intake tunnel No (4) of Belu Creek No. 3 Hydropower Project under implementation.

(See page 8)
People's Utility & Electronics Exhibition-2010

at Tatmadaw Convention Centre on U Wisara

Road in Yangon from 3 to 6 September.

Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint speaking at opening of Sports Minister’s Trophy Myanmar Traditional Canoe Ball Contest.

Sunday, 5 September, 2010

Enjoy living in a drug-free society

The problem of narcotic drugs is a grave threat to all regions, all nations big or small and all people rich or poor. Particularly, abuse of a variety of drugs is common among young people, so all nations have attached great importance to combating narcotics.

Abuse of heroin, opium oil, opium, marihuana and chemical-based stimulant pills is becoming widespread in the world. Narcotic drugs have negative impact not only on users but also on their family members. Moreover, as they can cause economic and social losses, global nations are seeking various means to fight against the drugs. Regional and neighbouring nations are collaborating with each other in the combat.

Myanmar is carrying out a 15-year drug elimination plan. During the period from 1999 to 2014, drug elimination efforts have been exerted yearly, reaping benefits to such an extent. As abuse of drugs is associated with narcotic production and dealing, action is being taken against drug pushers as well as abusers in accord with the law.

Meanwhile, the poppy plantations in poppy-growing regions have been destroyed in cooperation with local people. In the poppy-growing season of 2009-2010, poppy plantations are being monitored and destroyed. From 1 September 2009 to 13 August 2010, more than 20,000 acres of poppy fields were destroyed nationwide.

Narcotic drugs still pose a threat to mankind, so the entire world is taking measures to prevent and eradicate production and distribution of narcotics. All the people will surely enjoy living in a drug-free society for the State is amplifying drug elimination efforts with public participation.

7th Myanmar traditional Chinlon competitions kick off

YANGON, 4 Sept — Sports Minister’s Trophy 7th Myanmar Traditional Chinlon (cane ball) competitions for 2010 took place at Yan Gyi Aung Stadium in Shwebo Township today.

Minister for Sports Thura U Aye Myint delivered an address to open the competitions. The Myanmar traditional sport keeps the players healthy and happy and encourages cooperation among the players, the ministry has organized the competitions to develop the sport among the people, the minister said.

Before the competitions, the minister accepted the cash donated by Chairman of Sagaing Region Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Brig-Gen Soe Lwin and responsible personnel of the Myanmar Chinlon Federation and wellwishers. President of MCF U Soe Naing accepted K 8 million donated by Ministry of Sports.

A total of 33 teams are participating in the competitions.

Panasonic Electronic participates in People’s Utility & Electronics Exhibition

YANGON, 4 Sept—Panasonic Electronic is displaying its products at the People’s Utility & Electronics Exhibition-2010 at Tatmadaw Convention Centre on U Wisara Road, here, up to 6 September.

Panasonic Electronic puts its products on display at the single place. Plasma TVs, refrigerators, washing machines, digital cameras, air-conditioners, cassette and speakers, household and kitchen utensils, microwave ovens and other people’s utilities are available at the booth of Panasonic.

Panasonic offers one-year guarantee service. In addition to the booth at the exhibition, Panasonic products are available at its showrooms.

Electoral process courses opened in Maubin Township

YANGON, 4 Sept—The electoral process courses for returning officers, deputy returning officers and members of polling stations, organized by Maubin Township Election Subcommission in Maubin District, Ayeyawady Region, were opened at Aungheit village-tract on 2 September morning with addresses of Member of District Subcommission Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Ngwe Khin and Chairman of Township Subcommission U Myo Myint.

Members of Township Subcommission Townsend Law Officer U Thaung Nyunt presented electoral law and bylaw, Staff Officer of Township Information and Public Relations Department U Hein Lin, and Township Assistant Education Officer U Myint Soe lectured on electoral process for returning officers and deputy returning officers.

After the demonstration of polling vote, officials concerned answered the queries presented by those present.

The similar courses will take place at 11 designated places in 12 Wards and 76 village-tracts of Maubin Township during the period of 2 to 15 September. —MNA
73 killed in fresh suicide bomb attack in Pakistan

Meanwhile, a local organization called Shiite Conference, Balochistan announced a 40-day mourning in the city as most of the victims in the terrorist attack were Shiite Muslims, a minority sect whose population accounts for about five to six percent of the country’s total.

Friday’s massive attack in Quetta, capital of Balochistan province, came at about 3:05 pm when a 22-year-old man identified as Rashid Moadwaa reportedly carrying an estimated 15 kilograms of explosive blew himself up among crowd of people.

“A general view shows the Bushehr nuclear power plant in southern Iran on 20 Aug, 2010. Xinhua

Bushehr power plant operation, a "turning page" in Iran-Russia relations

The beginning of fuel loading into Bushehr nuclear power plant by Russians on 21 Aug, would be a "turning page" in Iran-Russia relations and is a signal to the United States to recognize Iran’s nuclear rights, an Iranian university professor told Xinhua in an exclusive interview on Thursday.

Explaining his view about the impact of fuel loading into Bushehr power plant on Iran and Russia’s future relations, Dr Foad Izadi, a research fellow at the Faculty of World Studies of Tehran University, said "now that the plant is running, obviously, relations between Iran and Russia are going to improve."

Izadi said that Bushehr nuclear power plant was supposed to come online about 10 years ago, but the US pressures on Russian government over Iran’s nuclear programme hindered the launch of the project.

"Finally, the Russians decided to do their promise and start the operation at Bushehr power plant," he said, stressing that this is a "better sign" in the future relations between the two neighbouring states.

With the help of Russian experts, fuel loading into Iran’s first nuclear power plant, which started on 21A ug, is set to finish on 5 Sept, after which the Bushehr nuclear power plant will become operational soon. — Xinhua

Calif wildfire sparked by migrants’ signal blaze

CAMPO, 4 Sept— Authorities say a wildfire burning in rural San Diego County was sparked by two illegal immigrants who set a signal fire after they got lost.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Battalion Chief Nick Schuler says the migrants made a cell phone call to Mexico’s emergency dispatch system Thursday afternoon saying they’d been lost for two days, were dehydrated and were going to set a signal fire so rescuers could spot them.

Schuler says remnants of a campfire were found, but there was no sign of the migrants.

The fire, between Campo and Potrero, has grown to 822 acres and is 42 percent contained. Full containment is expected on Sunday.

No structures are threatened, no roads are closed and there have been no injuries. — Internet

With houses seen in the background, flames from the Crown Fire burn plants as it races across the desert near Lake Elizabeth Road in Palmdale, Calif, on 30 Jul, 2010.  Internet

Widespread devastation after 7.1 quake in New Zealand

CHRISTCHURCH, 4 Sept— A powerful 7.1 magnitude earthquake caused widespread devastation in New Zealand’s second largest city of Christchurch on Saturday, with officials saying it was “extremely lucky” no one was killed.

The quake struck just before dawn when few people were on the streets sending building facades crashing to the ground, crushing parked cars and showering the roads with shattered glass.

Frightened residents fled from their homes to find streets covered in rubble and glass, but in the city of 340,000 only two people were seriously injured.

Many buildings were structurally damaged, and there were gas leaks, ruptured water and sewage mains, collapsed bridges and cuts to electricity supplies.

NATO soldier killed in southern Afghanistan

KABUL, 4 Sept— A US soldier in southern Afghanistan has died after an militant attack in the most volatile part of the country, NATO said on Saturday.

The attack was on Friday, NATO’s International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said in a statement.

A spokesman confirmed separately the dead soldier was American.

The death brings to 327 the number of US military deaths in the war this year, and to 494 the total number of foreign troops to die, according to an AFP tally based on that kept by theicasualties.org website.

The war is nearing the end of its ninth year, with international troops nearing full strength of 150,000 from the United States and NATO.
Internet

Chinese satellites bump during secret maneuvers

NEW YORK, 4 Sept—A Chinese satellite may have intentionally nudged another spacecraft during secretive space maneuvers in near-Earth orbit, according to analysts.

Such close encounters could allow China to practice rendezvous procedures between its future space station and other spacecraft, as well as learn about satellite formation flying, said Brian Weeden, a former US Air Force orbital analyst and now technical adviser for the Secure World Foundation.

The satellite rendezvous tests could also permit close-up inspection of another satellite, not unlike demonstrations performed by the United States and other countries in the past.—INTERNET

Archeologists still doubt authenticity of the tomb of ancient Chinese legendary ruler

ANYANG, 4 Sept—Chinese experts and amateurs are still questioning the claim by China's archaeological authority that an ancient tomb belongs to Cao Cao, a cunning general and ruler some 1,800 years ago.

Yan Peidong, an amateur archaeologist, told Xinhua on Wednesday that he has collected evidence showing some of the items excavated from the tomb, in Xigaoxue Village of Anyang, Henan Province, had been purposely forged. Citing one of his discoveries, Yan, a native of Hebei Province, said he had visited an illegal workshop in Henan where workers admitted they had made fake items for the tomb. However, Pan Weibin, chief archaeologist leading the authorized excavation project of the tomb, made an announcement on 27 Aug saying the excavation was conducted using scientific methods and more than 400 items so far found in the tomb were genuine.

Monkeys caught monkeying around during full moon

BUENOS AIRES, 4 Sept—Monkeys that prowl the forests of Argentina after dark prefer the light of the full moon, according to a new study. The findings suggest that for some nocturnal monkeys, moonlight trumps their internal biological clock for setting sleep schedules. Owl monkeys in Central and South America are the only primates to stick to strict nocturnal patterns. But one type of owl monkey, the Azara's owl monkey, can switch from a nocturnal schedule to one that includes activity during the day and night. To find out what triggers the Azara's owl monkey's strange schedule, researchers fitted wild monkeys with collars that would record when they were active. They then monitored the monkeys for up to 18 months. They learned that the monkeys much preferred warmth and light over cold and darkness. Nocturnal activity was more common during the warm months of September to March than during colder months.

Technology

mTrip iPhone app uses augmented reality

NEW YORK, 4 Sept—The new iPhone application mTrip is a travelling guide and then some: It uses the latest in smartphone technology to make it easier to stay on track in a foreign locale.

But isn’t getting lost part of the fun of travelling? For me, yes. For others, maybe not. So-called “augmented reality” became more widely available about a year ago and takes advantage of a smartphone’s GPS and compass features, along with access to high-speed wireless networks, to mash up super-local Web content with the world that surrounds you.

It works like this: You turn on the application, hit the augmented reality button and then look through your phone’s camera at the Brooklyn Bridge or the Empire State Building. Icons pop up that show you other points of interest, or restaurants within a half mile of your location, whether the restaurant is open, and what reviewers are saying about it.

The feature feels a bit like being in a “Matrix” film, but in a good way. I used the application for New York. Being a local, I was impressed with the restaurant selections and shopping options that popped up when I pointed my camera down Broadway in SoHo, or more off-the-beaten-path locations like my neighbourhood, Carroll Gardens in Brooklyn.

Google plans to sell music online

NEW YORK, 4 Sept—The search giant is in talks with music labels on plans for a download store and a digital song locker that would let its mobile phone users play songs wherever they are. Google (NMS:GOOG) hopes to launch the service by Christmas, according to sources. Google is trying to compete with Apple, which dominates via its iTunes Music Stores, accounting for 70% of all US digital music sales. It rose 1.5% to 470.30.

Rounding up the new iPod touch and iPod nano cases

WASHINGTON, 4 Sept—As you all know, it’s never a proper aftermath of an iPod event without some new cases, and we here at Macworld are more than happy to present some of the first options available for that iPod Touch or Nano in your pre-order basket. From protective covers to eigthinspired wrist straps, we’ve got a little something for every kind of case lover—except maybe a wristwatch adapter for the Nano.

From the looks of things, Belkin is getting ready to unleash a whole army of iPod Touch cases on the unsuspecting public starting in September. The company says they’ve identified “five main ways people carry their iPod,” and have developed three categories for the cases they’ve created based on this knowledge. The first category, Grip cases, features covers that are inspired by the Grip strap. The second category, Inspired cases, features wrist straps, we’ve got a little something for every kind of case lover—except maybe a wristwatch adapter for the Nano.

A new theoretical physics model helps define the subatomic origins of ferromagnetism—the everyday “magnetism” of compass needles and refrigerator magnets.
Health

**Health tip: Breast-feeding benefits baby**

For the first few months, newborns need sustenance from either breast milk or formula. Since breast milk contains disease-fighting antibodies, the womenhealth.gov website says breast-feeding may help reduce the risk of these health problems in babies:

- Ear infections.
- Stomach viruses.
- The skin condition atop dermatitis.
- Asthma.
- Obesity.
- Childhood leukemia.— Internet

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Sickle cell kids at greater risk of ‘swine flu’ complications

**NEW YORK, 4 Sept—** Children with sickle cell disease experience more life-threatening complications from the H1N1 swine flu than from seasonal flu, a new study has found.

This means that doctors and parents need to be aware that children with sickle cell disease are more likely to need emergency treatment and to be hospitalized, Dr. John Strouse of Johns Hopkins Children’s Centre and colleagues explained in a Hopkins news release. The study authors analyzed the medical records of 123 children with sickle cell disease treated for any kind of flu between September 1993 and December 2009. Of those, 29 were infected with the 2009 H1N1 swine flu virus.

Both seasonal flu and the H1N1 virus caused typical flu symptoms, such as fever, cough and a runny nose, in most of the children. However, those infected with H1N1 were nearly three times more likely to develop acute chest syndrome, a leading cause of death in children with sickle cell disease. It is marked by lung inflammation, reduced ability to absorb oxygen and shortness of breath. In addition, compared to children with seasonal flu, H1N1-infected children had a more than five-times increased risk of ending up in the intensive care unit, and were more likely to require a ventilator for breathing.— Internet

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First human case of West Nile virus confirmed in Los Angeles

**LOS ANGELES, 4 Sept—** Health officials on Friday confirmed the first human case of West Nile virus for the 2010 season in Los Angeles.

The patient developed symptoms in mid-August and has since recovered, according to Los Angeles County’s Public Health Department (LACPHD). As of Monday, officials around the county have detected the virus in 17 dead birds, 31 mosquito pools, two sentinel chickens and one squirrel so far this year, according to the department. The virus is often transmitted to humans by mosquitoes which obtain the virus by feeding on infected wild birds, but is not spread through person-to-person contact, or directly from birds to humans.— Xinhua

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Business

**Campbell reports Q4 profit rise on better margins**

**HADDONFIELD, 4 Sept—** Summer is rarely a hot sales season for Campbell Soup Co, and this year’s sweltering June and July made that even more true, but the company said on Friday that cost-cutting and strong drink sales helped its net income climb.

The results topped most Wall Street expectations, but Campbell’s outlook spooked many investors, and its shares slid 3 percent on Friday.

The Camden company reported that its fourth-quarter net income rose 63 percent from the same period last year to $113 million, or 33 cents per share. Excluding one-time items from 2009’s results, the increase was 7 percent. The company posted better production numbers and benefited from lower taxes, yet sales fell slightly compared with the same period last year, from $1.53 billion to $1.52 billion for the quarter. For the full fiscal year, they fell 1 percent, to $7.6 billion from $7.7 billion. During the quarter, sales of both ready-to-serve and condensed soups slipped 7 percent. The company says fourth-quarter sales alone figures don’t speak to the health of the company.— Internet

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**Stocks rally as jobs data spurs optimism**

**NEW YORK, 4 Sept—** Wall Street closed at a strong pace on Friday after recent economic data, including a stronger-than-expected labour market report, bolstered optimism that the economy would not fall back into recession. The S&P 500 gained 3.8 percent for the week, its best in eight, setting the stage for more bullish mood when markets reopen Tuesday after the long Labour Day weekend. US Treasury debt yields have risen from levels reflecting expectations of another recession. Stock sectors sensitive to economic swings like technology and banks led the week’s gains. On Friday, the S&P financial sector index (GSPF) rose 2.2 percent, with Goldman Sachs (GS.N) up 5.4 percent at $147.29 and Janus Capital (JNS.N) up 6.6 percent at $10.12. *Equity markets had priced in the non-trivial probability of a double dip, and what you’re seeing is that fear pricing is coming out,* said Mike Duerker, head of economics at Russell Investments in Tacoma, Washington.—Internet

Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 31 August, 2010.— Internet

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**MGIC added $1.2B in mortgage coverage in August**

**MILWAUKEE, 4 Sept—** Private mortgage insurer Mortgage Guaranty Insurance Corp. said on Friday it added $1.2 billion in new primary insurance coverage in August and the number of delinquent loans it insures declined.

The company, which sells mortgage insurance coverage to lenders, ended the month with 224,410 delinquent loans. That’s down from 229,012 delinquent loans at the end of July.

MGIC is the primary subsidiary of MGIC Investment Corp and had $202.4 billion in primary insurance in force covering 1.3 million mortgages as of 30 June.

MGIC shares added 64 cents, or 8 percent, to $8.62 in after hours trading.— Internet
Mexico evacuates people in southeast for flooding

A man rides his bicycle through a flooded street in Juchitan de Zaragoza, Mexico on 31 August, 2010. —Xinhua

XINHUA

Mexico City, 4 Sept— The Mexican authorities began on Friday evacuating people in southeastern states of Tabasco and Veracruz due to flooding after pouring rains over the last few days. According to Tabasco Governor Andres Garniner and Health Director of Tabasco, Luis Felipe Graham, some 130,000 people have been affected by the flooding. While evacuating these people, the authorities are also taking measures to prevent dengue cases. Weather forecasts predict more rains and overflows for the eastern state.

In Veracruz state, some 21,000 inhabitants from Tlacotalpan municipality had been evacuated as the rivers of Papaloapan, San Juan and Tesechoacan overflowed.

Veracruz’ Civil Protection director Silvia Dominguez said that some 150,000 have been affected by the overflowing. —Xinhua

Moderate quake hits Papua, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 4 Sept— A shallow moderate quake with a magnitude of 5.7 struck off Papua in easternmost Indonesia on Saturday, the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency reported.

The quake jolted at 10:14 am Jakarta Time (0314 GMT) with the epicenter at 254 km southwest of Jayapura of Papua and with the depth at 10 km, the agency said. —Xinhua

6.5-magnitude quake hits Andreanof Islands, Aleutian Islands, Alaska

SAN FRANCISCO, 4 Sept— An earthquake measuring 6.5 on the Richter scale jolted Andreanof Islands, Aleutian Islands, Alaska at 11:16:07 GMT Friday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicenter, with a depth of 34.00 km, was initially determined to be at 51.4670 degrees north latitude and 175.8740 degrees west longitude. —Xinhua

A sanitation worker sterilizes the landslide-hit area at Hedong Village of Baoshan City, southwest China’s Yunnan Province, on 3 Sept, 2010. As of Friday afternoon, the landslide that hit the village caused 16 people dead and 32 still missing. Rescue work was underway. —Xinhua

Death toll rises to 16 in SW China landslide

BAOSHAN, 4 Sept— The death toll from mudslides that hit a village in southwest China’s Yunnan Province Wednesday climbed to 16, and 32 people are still missing, officials at the rescue headquarters said Friday.

By Friday night workers managed to restore the area’s power supply, telecommunications and traffic services, and rescuers are attempting to retrieve bodies buried up to eight metres in the mud. However, rescuers are not able to use huge excavating shovels at the site, fearing the equipment might trigger new mudslides.

The mudslides occurred at about 10:20 pm Wednesday in Hedong Village of Longyang District in Baoshan City.

A initial investigation blamed the tragedy on loose dirt and rocks sitting on a steep slope which had been soaked by rain for about 10 days.

The debris, as large as 40,000 cubic meters, came crashing down on the densely populated village, trapping 71 people from 21 families.

More than 1,100 people have participated in the rescue operation and over 120 medical workers have assisted in treating the injured.

Tropical storm Lionrock abates, Malou approaches China’s east coast

BEIJING, 4 Sept— China’s national weather forecaster warned Saturday that tropical storm Malou was on course to strike the country’s east coast just as Lionrock was abating.

The National Meteorological Centre (NMC) cancelled the typhoon warning for Lionrock, as it was downgraded to a tropical low pressure front in southern Guangdong Province Friday.

It would continue to abate as it moves west at a speed of 10 kilometres an hour.

However, heavy winds and torrential rains would continue along the southern coast and parts of central China, as the impacts of the southwest monsoon and the cold front as well as Lionrock merge.

The NMC said Malou, this year’s ninth tropical storm, was heading northwest at a speed of 20 kilometres an hour, and would enter the East China Sea Saturday afternoon. It would then move towards China’s east coast, bringing gales.

Five New Zealanders, four foreigners killed in plane crash in NZ’s South Island

WELLINGTON, 4 Sept— Police confirmed that nine people were killed in a plane crash at Fox Glacier in New Zealand’s South Island on Saturday.

The accident happened at 11:15 pm on Saturday when the plane, carrying a party of skydivers and tourists, crashed at the end of the runway at Fox Glacier Airport, the NZPA reported.

The light plane, from a local sky diving company, reportedly burst into flames shortly after takeoff.

There were five New Zealanders on board and Australian, Irish, German and UK citizens.

The embassies of overseas victims have been informed and relatives are in the process of being advised. Police from Tasman District have secured the scene of the crash site and the bodies will remain there until Sunday. A Police Disaster Victim Identification team is currently en-route to Fox Glacier.

Once the bodies have been recovered they are expected to be taken to Dunedin hospital. Police are unable to release the identities of the victims until relatives have been informed. The cause of the crash was under investigation.

Scentsy, a rapidly growing home fragrance company, will make a donation to the National Breast Cancer Foundation from each sale of a new Love, Life, Hope warmer, which is available for a limited time (September - February 2011). The warmer is one of 33 new decorative ceramic warmers in Scentsy’s Fall/Winter 2010 catalog. Scentsy today released its broadest product offering to date—adding fragrance options for the whole family including the Scentsy Buddy(TM), 14 new fragrances of highly-scented wax bars and bricks for use in its decorative warmers, and two new on-the-go scented products, Fragrance Foam(TM) and the Scent Pak(TM).

Internet
Reaching the Marginalized: Empowering women with literacy

Thein Oak Sein

The recent global economic downturn has had an adverse impact on education systems around the world. The potential crisis resulting from this economic downturn could be a generation of children not receiving their right to education. To highlight the importance of literacy to individuals, communities and societies at all levels, the world Literacy Day is celebrated on 8 September every year. This issue needs to be acknowledged and recognized with greater urgency.

On this day, countries around the world including Myanmar will salute and applaud all teachers, volunteers and other individuals who have made dedicated efforts to improve the learning environment of children and adults to have increasing access to basic education, and also to encourage them to sustain their commitment. The particular theme of Literacy Day this year is to eliminate unequal opportunities in education by recognizing gender, literacy and enhance their importance for participation citizenship and social development.

Education has the power to transform lives. Literacy, a subset of education, is not merely about basic skills of reading and writing but also about acquiring the skills to use these skills, the capabilities for understanding their lives and social environment as well as equipping them with problem-solving skills. It broadens people’s freedom of choice and action, empowering them to participate in the social and political lives of their societies and equipping them with the skills they need to develop their livelihoods.

Literacy, therefore, is a foundation of human resources development and is critical to alleviating poverty and to enhancing the general quality of life of the people. Tackling global illiteracy is a monumental task that involves cooperation from many levels of organizations. Specifically, addressing the issue of the marginalization of women and girls in education can have a significant impact on global illiteracy. The provision of this basic right has not been equal among the genders.

To put this unequal distribution into proper perspective, it could be seen that two-third of the youth and adults without literacy skills are female. In some countries, up to 80% of the women, a majority of them are girls, are illiterate. Even more worrisome is that despite global literacy efforts, the overall percentage of women who are illiterate has remained virtually unchanged in the last 20 years. In 1985, 63% of the illiterates were women, and the same proportion existed in 2006. This shows that the years of considerable efforts, time and money put in by the countries to achieve the literacy goals for marginalized population has generally fallen short of expectations.

As a major marginalized group, women have not received the same educational opportunities as their male counterparts. Marginalization is no longer a peripheral concern and must be addressed head on. The assumption has been that nutritional progress in education would eventually effect literacy overall. After a decade of steady but uneven progress towards recognizing gender, education and health. There is evidence that literacy overall. After a decade of steady but uneven progress towards recognizing gender, education and health. There is evidence that literacy overall. After a decade of steady but uneven progress towards recognizing gender, education and health. There is evidence that literacy overall. After a decade of steady but uneven progress towards recognizing gender, education and health. There is evidence that literacy overall. After a decade of steady but uneven progress towards recognizing gender, education and health. There is evidence that literacy overall. After a decade of steady but uneven progress towards recognizing gender, education and health. There is evidence that literacy overall. After a decade of steady but uneven progress towards recognizing gender, education and health. There is evidence that literacy overall. After a decade of steady but uneven progress towards recognizing gender, education and health. There is evidence that literacy overall. After a decade of steady but uneven progress towards recognizing gender, education and health. There is evidence that literacy overall. After a decade of steady but uneven progress towards recognizing gender, education and health. There is evidence that literacy overall.

The problem with the focus on education is that a vicious cycle is created. Education can help lift people out of poverty by increasing productivity and opening doors to opportunities. The interaction of the lower level of education and poverty is a vicious circle as shown by many “missing” girls in infancy. A child born in Nepal is twice as likely to die before his or her fifth birthday compared to a child born in Thailand. Within India, children born in the poorest 20% households are more than three times as likely to die before their fifth birthday compared to children in the richest 20% of households. Babies born after the sixth pregnancy have 2-3 times risk of dying compared to the first-born baby. Similarly, babies born to mothers with no education are two to three times risk of dying compared to those born to mothers with higher education. Skilled birth attendance, an important determinant of maternal mortality, is less than 5% among the poorest 40% of women in both Bangladesh and Nepal. Within countries, health and education inequalities are dramatic, even though strong economic growth and overall social improvement is visible. Although the health status of poor populations has improved in all countries, the gap between the poor and the rest of the population is getting wider. In Bangladesh, for example, the average for the under-five mortality rate has dropped by 31% from 1997 to 2004, but among the poorest 20% population, it fell by only 11% in the same time period.

There is no general policy-making rule in addressing gender disparities. The reasons vary. For marginalized women vary, ranging from country to country. However, people are born, grow, live, work, and die, and that is a matter of concern. Poverty is a near universal source of extreme disadvantage in health and education, though poverty is not a driving force for illiteracy or ill-health by itself. The adverse effect of poverty has been determined by its impact on the economic circumstances of the poor, as well as an important factor in keeping women uneducated.蔓延 and girls are less likely to pursue education, regardless of gender. At higher income households, the gender disparity remains low. However, as income level decreases, especially at poverty levels, the disparity between education and the genders increases greatly.

The recent economic downturn has had an adverse impact on education systems around the world. The potential crisis resulting from this economic downturn could be a generation of children not receiving their right to education. To highlight the importance of literacy to individuals, communities and societies at all levels, the world Literacy Day is celebrated on 8 September every year. This issue needs to be acknowledged and recognized with greater urgency.

The New Light of Myanmar Sunday, 5 September, 2010
Special refresher course for MPF officers

YANGON, 4 Sept — Special refresher course No. 18 for Myanmar Police Force officers concluded at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, this morning, with a speech by Chief of Myanmar Police Force Brig-Gen Khin Yi.

Present on the occasion were Member of Civil Service Selection and Training Board U Hla Myint Oo, rector, pro-rectors, heads of department and course instructors.

After giving a conclusion speech, MPF Chief Brig-Gen Khin Yi awarded outstanding trainees and presented completion certificates to the trainees.

A total of 213 trainees attended the four-week course. — MNA

ISO QMS Training concludes

YANGON, 4 Sept — The concluding ceremony of ISO QMS 9001: 2008 Quality Management System Awareness Course, jointly conducted by MAT Professional Training & Services and Guardian Independent Certification Ltd (UK), was held at the MAT lecture hall on Theinbyu Road here on 2 September.

IRCA-UK Registered QMS Auditor (GIC International Ltd (UK)) Dr Tin Latt gave lectures at the training which was attended by about 60 trainees.

The MAT Training Centre, which is conducting marketing and auditing courses, has arranged to open ISO 14000-Environmental Management Standards Course.

The MAT Professional Training & Services can be contacted by Ph: 246618, 73002958, 242431 and its website is www.matprofessional.com. — MNA

Belu Creek No. 3 Hydropower Project...

(from page 1)

It is located at the confluence of Belu Creek and Pun Creek near Lawptaw Village, 16 miles south-east of Loikaw. Hydropower Implementation Department of Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 is implementing the project in partnership with High Tech Concrete Technology Co Ltd, associated company of Future Energy Co Ltd under BOT system.

The project is divided into six main phases: (1) pre-engineering works, (2) digging water intake tunnel including main tunnel and approach tunnels, (3) construction of diversion weir, (4) construction of regulating lake, spillway and canal, (5) construction of penstock pipelines and power station, and (6) construction of switchyard and transmission line.

The project is diversion weir, water intake tunnel system type one and is found to be really massive one. A large workforce including 44 Myanmar engineers is implementing the project, working on day and night shifts.

Dumper trucks and excavators were kept busy plying between stone grinders and cement mixers. Everywhere was a rush.

Pre-engineering works have been completed.

Construction of upper wall in inner main water intake tunnel.

A young Myanmar engineer, wearing a smile on her face, conducted me round the tunnel (No. 4). We then observed construction of regulating lake, spillway and power station.

Construction of Belu Creek No. 3 Hydropower Project was started in 2008 and due to be finished in 2012. The power station to be equipped with two units of 26-megawatt capacity vertical shaft Francis turbine will be able to generate 334 million kilowatt-hours electricity per year.

Electricity is pivotal in transforming the nation into industrialized one.

Belu Creek No. 3 Hydropower Project was ranked as special project being jointly implemented by Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 and national entrepreneurs is believed to supply more electricity for domestic consumption.

YANGON, 4 Sept — The opening ceremony of electoral process course, conducted by Mindon Township Subcommission of Magway Region, was held at 9 am on 1 September at Mindon Hall.

It was attended by 346 trainees, including members of ward/village subcommissions, polling station officers, deputy polling station officers and members. — MNA

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Shwe Sin Sekkyar to launch new Yangon-Kyaupadaung-Bagan-NyaungU bus line

YANGON, 4 Sept—Shwe Sin Sekkyar Special Public Transportation Enterprise, of which 33 aircon buses are ploughing on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay-PyinOoLwin-Monywa-Hpa-an-Mawlamyine route, is due to launch new bus lines on Mawlamyine-Yangon-Monywa-YeU trip during this month. The bus tickets may be bought at No. (16, 17) B, *Pa* complex (Ph: 01-705020, 637233) in Aung M’ingala Expressway Terminal, at No. (G-10), South Wing of Aung San Stadium (Ph: 09-515539, 09-5146265, 09-5107135, 01-721994) and U Chit Maung Street, near Yadana Garden, Tanway Township (Ph: 01-705515, 01-709521) in Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw (Ph: 067-38357, 067-38269), Mandalay (Ph: 02-71845, 02-64498), PyinOoLwin (Ph: 085-21994, 085-21994), Monywa (Ph: 071-28166), Mawlamyine (Ph: 09-87012792, 09-6818113, 09-49815023), Hpa-an (Ph: 058-22196) and NyaungU (Ph: 09-8703928, 09-8618009).

MBA swings into action for achievements not only in SEA but…

(from page 16)

Now, the winners were awarded K 100,000 for the first prize, K 50,000 for the second and K 30,000 each for the joint third prize. The championship was categorized as the men’s open class, the junior class and the women’s opens class. One best boxer each was chosen at all levels and awarded K 200,000. The championship was participated with 17 boxing teams representing States and Regions, ministries, military commands and light infantry divisions, PTC (Ph: 031-22196) and NyaungU (Ph: 09-8703928, 09-8618009).

Myanmar women boxers seen at Yangon International Airport before their departure for Barbados to take part in World Women’s Boxing Championships.

People’s Utility & Electronics Exhibition kicks off

YANGON, 4 Sept—People’s Utility & Electronics Exhibition will take place at Tatmadaw Convention Centre on U Wisara Road here from yesterday to 6 September. Tharaphee laminate floor showroom displays its export quality floors in a wide choice at the expo.

Anyone, who buys the displayed items, gets 15-year warranty and may contact No. (B) (1, 2, 3) on Thitsa road, K anbae, Yankin Township, Ph: 99-5115531 or 09-73054498—MNA

Chef chicken powder on sale at People’s Utility & Electronics Exhibition-2010

YANGON, 4 Sept—Chef chicken powder and Goal seasoning powder produced by Goal Foodstuff Industry are on sale at People’s Utility & Electronics Exhibition-2010 opened yesterday at the Tatmadaw Convention Centre here.

The industry has guaranteed that the chicken powder and Goal seasoning powder has no side effects as they contain over 95 per cent of natural herbs and spices. Ingredients such as onion, garlic, cab-
Shipping companies eye fabled Asia route as ice melts

A recent picture released by Nordic Bulk Carriers shows the Nordic Barents bulk carrier near the port of Kirkenes, Norway. On Saturday the first non-Russian vessel to make an intercontinental commercial voyage through the Arctic Northeast passage will set sail from Norway for China.

INTERNET

OSLO, 4 Sept—Shipowners are showing growing interest in a fabled trade route to Asia which climate change is beginning to open up at last as polar ice recedes.

On Saturday the first non-Russian vessel to make an intercontinental commercial voyage through the Arctic Northeast passage will set sail from Norway for China. The route is thousands of kilometres (miles) shorter than traditional passages, promising to reduce travel time dramatically, along with fuel consumption and carbon dioxide emissions.

The Hong Kong-flagged Nordic Barents will sail from the northern port of Kirkenes with 41,000 tons of iron ore for Qingdao in China, aided by two Russian icebreakers and taking some 26 days.

Its owners, the Danish firm Nordic Bulk Carriers, said the ship would cover only about half the distance of its usual route through the Suez canal, spend eight fewer days at sea and save 180,000 dollars in fuel costs.

“It can be very interesting for producers of minerals in Norway, in Sweden or in Finland who want to export their goods to the Asian markets,” the company’s managing director Christian Bonfils said.

The new route mirrors the Northwest passage over the top of Canada, avoiding a massive detour through the Panama Canal and significantly slashing the distance between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

INTERNET

Bank plans 100 million dollar scheme for African farmers

ACCRA, 4 Sept—Standard Bank Africa announced Friday a 100 million dollar scheme to reach some 750,000 small scale farmers in Ghana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda in a bid to boost output.

“The private sector needs to roll up its sleeves and join the public sector as it works to build the agricultural capacity of the continent,” the bank’s chief executive Clive Tasker said at an agricultural forum in Accra.

The scheme will hand out loans to some 750,000 smallholder farmers in Ghana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda over the next three years, and the bank is keen on funding popular cash crops such as cocoa and cashew nuts.

The Standard Bank loans will be rolled out in partnership with an agriculture development organisation, the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa. Kanayo Nwanze, president of the organisation, the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa, has launched the programme — and given it the leisurely and join the public sector as it works to build the agricultural capacity of the continent,”

INTERNET

Panamanian govt’ to explore oil with Venezuelan firm

PANAMA CITY, 4 Sept—The Panamanian government will join hands with Venezuela’s PDVSA to explore oil resources in Panama’s mountainous Darien Province bordering Colombia, officials said Friday. The two sides will soon sign a contract to finalize the deal, under which a database will be created to locate oil reserves in Darien in preparations for subsequent exploration activities, Berta Burgos from the Panamanis Energy Ministry told local press.

PDVSA was founded by former employees of the state-run Petroles de Venezuela SA oil company.

INTERNET

Sea lion mauls 11-year-old boy at Australian zoo

In this file photo shows a sea lion takes a fish from a handler at the Central Park Zoo in New York. An 11-year-old boy has been mauled by a sea lion at a popular Sydney zoo in front of terrified visitors.

INTERNET

SYDNEY, 4 Sept—An 11-year-old boy was recovering Saturday after a sea lion mauled him at a popular Sydney zoo’s aquarium show as horrified visitors looked on.

The boy, identified by his stepmother as Jack Lister, had been invited by zookeepers to meet the 8-year-old female sea lion during the Taronga Zoo’s seal and sea lion show on Friday.

After feeding the animal, Jack mistakenly followed it off the stage, which spooked it, zoo officials said.

The sea lion bit the boy and left several puncture wounds on his stomach. Jack had abdominal surgery Friday night and was in stable condition at a hospital.

Jack’s stepmother, Dalitwa Wright, told Sydney’s The Daily Telegraph in a story published Saturday that the attack was sudden.

“I can only assume he was going for the smell of the fish. Jack pulled himself away and it then lunged for his back,” said Wright, whose family was visiting Sydney from the northeast city of Cairns.

“It all happened so quickly. It was quite traumatic.”

Zoo officials said the sealion had never shown aggressive behavior before, and they were investigating the attack.

The seal show was scheduled to continue Saturday, without the “encounter” portion of the programme — and without the sealion involved in the attack.

INTERNET

Colombian police seize 1.1 tons of cocaine

BOGOTA, 4 Sept—Colombian police Friday seized 1.1 tons of cocaine worth some 25 million US dollars in the central part of the country, authorities said. The illicit drugs were found in two trucks on a road linking the cities of Barrancabermeja and San Alberto in Santander Province, according to Orlando Pineda, police chief of the Magdalena Medio region. Two suspects were also arrested.

The load of 1.1 tons of cocaine belonged to the Medellina Medio drug cartel led by a drug lord nicknamed “Rogue,” and apparently was to be sent to Mexico, according to confessions from the arrested, he said.

Over the past few days, Colombian police carried out raids targeting drug cartels related to the Mexican mafia, aiming at cutting off links between criminal groups between the two countries.

Edgar Valdes, a drug lord captured in Mexico earlier this week, was said to have close ties with criminal groups in Colombia.

INTERNET

Five injured in south Lebanon blast

BEIRUT, 4 Sept—Five injured in a blast in the southern town of Shehabyie in Lebanon on Friday, said a local security source.

Witnesses in Shehabiyye said that they heard more than one explosion around 12:00 local time (9:00 GMT).

The country’s state-run National News Agency (NNA) confirmed later that an explosion occurred in a three-storey building in the area that contains an arms depot.

INTERNET
US cargo plane crashes in Dubai, killing two pilots

Dubai, 4 Sept—A US cargo plane crashed in an unpopulated area between two highways in Dubai late Friday, killing two pilots on board, authorities of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) said.

The plane, a Boeing 747-400 belonging to US parcel delivery company UPS, caught fire after the crash, the General Civil Aviation Authority said in a statement, according to the state news agency WAM. All measures had been taken to extinguish the fire and the two pilots' bodies were recovered, the statement said. "The concerned authorities are conducting necessary investigations to identify the cause of the crash," it added, without confirming if there were more casualties on ground.

Earlier, Dubai-based Al Arabiya TV channel said a cargo plane crashed on a busy highway in Dubai, setting some cars on fire. Ambulances were rushing to the area, located near a residential district, Al Arabiya said, adding that preliminary reports indicated that all crew members might have been killed.

Azerbaijan to double natural gas exports to Russia

TBILISI, 4 Sept—Azerbaijan on Friday agreed to more than double its natural gas exports to Russia and the agreement was signed during Russian President Dmitry Medvedev’s visit to the country, according to reports reaching here.

The new agreement, signed by Azeri state oil company SOCAR and Russian gas giant Gazprom, was a supplement to an earlier accord signed by the two firms covering the period of from 2010 up to 2015.

The original accord, signed on 14 October last year, agreed to exports no less than 500 million cubic metres of Azeri gas to Russia annually.

Azeraijan began gas supplies to Russia on 1 January and July. Azerbajani President Ilkham Aliyev said his country has the potential to extract 5 trillion cubic metres of natural gas a year. The country is currently extracting 2 trillion cubic metres of gas a year. Azerbajani gas reaches Russia through the Baku-Novofilya pipeline.

Weakened storm Earl moves toward Canada

SOUTH YARMOUTH, 4 Sept—Tropical Storm Earl barreled toward Canada past the northeastern US state of Massachusetts early on Saturday after it weakened further and lost its hurricane status.

But it still lashed the US East Coast with heavy rains and strong winds.

Residents in North Carolina were mopping up after a storm surge sent waves crashing ashore, flooding roads on the low-lying barrier islands as the high winds caused sporadic power outages.

New England and the outlying tourist hotspot of Cape Cod were in Earl's path, although it was not expected to receive a direct hit.

"At this time we have no official reports of fatalities related to the storm track nor do we have any report of damage," Craig Fugate, head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), told reporters.

Despite the downgrading of the storm, transport to and from Cape Cod and the nearby high-end destination islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, where last week US President Barack Obama and family vacationed, was limited.

The National Hurricane Centre said winds had weakened to near 70 miles (110 kilometres) per hour as the storm lost steam churning northward over cooler waters.

Lasers could protect helicopters from harm

A NEW ORLEANS, 4 Sept—A new laser technology could protect helicopters in combat from heat-seeking missiles, University of Michigan researchers say.

Using inexpensive, off-the-shelf telecommunications fiber optics, Mohammed Islam, a professor in the UM Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, has developed study and portable "mid-infrared supercontinuum lasers" that could blind heat-seeking weapons from a distance of 1.8 miles, a university release said.

The lasers are promising for helicopter protection because their robust, simple design can withstand the vibrations of helicopter flight.

Most lasers emit light of just one wavelength. But supercontinuum lasers give off a focused beam packed with light from a much broader range of wavelengths.

Islam’s mid-infrared supercontinuum laser is the first to operate in longer infrared wavelengths that heat-seeking missiles use to home in on the infrared radiation that a helicopter engine emits.

By emitting a broad spectrum of infrared light, it can effectively mimic the engine’s electromagnetic signature and confuse any incoming weapons, Islam said.
TANKER RUNS AGRIND ON NORTHWEST PASSAGE OFF CANADA

OTTAWA, 4 Sept — A tanker carrying 9m litres (2.4m gallons) of diesel fuel has run aground off the coast of northern Canada, the Canadian Coast Guard has said. The Nanny, owned by Woodward’s Oil, hit a sandbar in the Northwest Passage, near the village of Gjoa Haven in the Nunavut federal territory. No diesel is believed to have been spilled, Coast Guard officials said.

The authorities are working with Woodward’s Oil to attempt to float the tanker off the sandbar. “At this point in time there is no pollution and no damage to the vessel,” said Larry Trigati, an environmental response official with the Canadian Coast Guard. He said the ship, which ran aground on Wednesday, was not taking on water and that its crew was safe. — Internet

Silver Spring Channel hostages planned escape

SILVER SPRING, 4 Sept — Police had been negotiating with James Lee for several hours and intended to keep him talking for as long as it took to safely resolve the standoff at the Discovery Channel’s headquarters. Inside the lobby, Lee’s three hostages had no intention of waiting.

As the two Discovery employees and a security guard got ready to make a break for it, officers moving in on Lee heard him shout and then a “pop” that they thought might have been gunfire or a homemade bomb detonating. So they stepped out from behind a wall and shot him dead, ending the drama that unfolded Wednesday at the cable network’s complex just north of Washington.

It turned out that Lee was armed with starter pistols, police said on Thursday as they revealed new details about the culmination of Lee’s yearlong crusade against the Discovery networks, which he faulted in fanatical Web posts for offering programming that promoted over-the-counter antibiotics.

But Lee, 43, was also carrying homemade pipe bombs, one of which went off when he was shot. Capt Paul Starks of the Montgomery County Police department described the devices as canisters of propane with pipes around them. He said inside the pipes were shotgun shells or pellets. — Internet

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against these vessels will be admitted after the Claims Day.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV HAL ADMIRALTY VOY NO (007)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HAL ADMIRALTY VOY NO (007) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.9.2010 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority

Agent for: M/S Hartmann Asia Line

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

INTERNET

 Benny Wolff, a German company, which allegedly bought cheap Chinese honey and, on route to the US, filtered out "pollen and other trace elements that could indicate that the honey originated from China", according to the chargesheet. A sales manager from the Chinese-based QHD Sanghai Honey was also indicted.

Some of the honey was mixed with Indian honey to disguise its origin, or adulterated with antibiotics, in an attempt to avoid paying $80m in import duties. Illinois attorney Patrick Fitzgerald said most of the honey was of a commercial grade and would have been diluted before being sold, and that it was not believed to be a risk to health. — Internet

Girl, 4, dies, weighed 15 pounds

NEW YORK, 4 Sept — New York police said they were investigating the death of a 4-year-old girl who weighed 15 pounds, whose body was found Wednesday at her family’s apartment, Marchella Pierce’s father, Tyrone Pierce, said she was born prematurely and had been hospitalized much of her life, The New York Times reported. Investigators said they found marks on her ankles that may have been made by twine found tied to a railing on a bed in the bedroom where police found her body after being called to the Brooklyn apartment.

It was not clear whether Marchella’s weight was caused by malnourishment or health problems. Police said Marchella’s health problems included undersized lungs.

INTERNET
Born to be mild

Lu drives his handmade red “mini Ferrari” on the street.

A 63-year-old retiree surnamed Lu drives his handmade red “mini Ferrari” to buy vegetables on Y ou’u North Road in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region last week. Lu said his homemade vehicle is the second tiny Ferrari replica he’s made since retiring seven years ago from a job at a local radio station. It’s 3.8 metres long, 0.9 metres wide and powered by a motorcycle engine with a top speed of 40 kilometres per hour.

For 2nd time, Ohio woman gives birth in vehicle

For a second time, an Ohio woman has given birth to a baby who couldn’t wait and arrived on the drive to the hospital.

Christina Schuler’s 8-pound, 11-ounce son was born on Tuesday in the front seat of the family’s pickup truck. Her husband pulled over less than a mile from their hospital in southwest Ohio’s Clermont County.

The woman from Bethel says her labour was even shorter than it was in December 2006, when she gave birth to her son, Ethan, in a car.

The Schulers also have one other child. The father, Nathan Schuler, says if the couple has any more children, they’ll have to leave for the hospital a lot earlier. They haven’t decided on a name yet for the new baby.

First champagne, now 200-year-old beer salvaged in Baltic

Divers salvaged the world’s oldest drinkable beer from a shipwreck in the Baltic Sea on Thursday, just days after work began to retrieve dozens of bottles of 200-year-old champagne, local officials said. “We believe these are far the world’s oldest bottles of beer,” Rainer Justin, a spokesman for the local government of Aaland, said in a statement.

The beer bottles were unearthed from a shipwreck believed to be about 200 years old — as divers were recovering bottles of what is thought to be the world’s oldest drinkable champagne, discovered in July.

The enviable haul, found intact on the seabed at a depth of 50 metres (yards), comes from an unidentified wreck which the Aaland authorities believe sank off the coast in the early 1800s.

Venice festival honours Chinese director John Woo

VENICE, 4 Sept—The Venice film festival on Friday honoured Hong Kong director John Woo, one of the few Asian filmmakers to enjoy box office success in Hollywood as well as at home.

The 64-year-old was awarded a lifetime achievement Golden Lion at the world’s oldest film festival on the same day it showed his latest film “Reign of Assassins,” which he co-directed with Su Chao-Pin and also produced. Woo, best known for his choreographed action sequences, was active in Hong Kong during the 1970s and 1980s, and in 1989 he released “The Killer,” which drew the attention of US filmmakers and helped him make the jump to Hollywood.

He moved there in 1993, and directed Jean-Claude Van Damme in “Hard Target” the same year. Three years later he made “Broken Arrow,” starring John Travolta, and teamed up with the actor again in 1997 in “Face/Off,” a financial and critical hit.

IMAX eager to tap into Chinese market with major expansion plans

TORONTO, 4 Sept—IMAX, the Canadian operator of large-screen movie theaters, is set to open 80 theaters in China over the next couple of years. And its overall goal is to open 250-300 theaters in China. This will make China the second largest market in the world for IMAX, and allow IMAX to claim the title of largest foreign movie exhibitor in China.

Calling it a win-win situation for both China and IMAX, Rechard Gelfond, chief executive of IMAX Corp, told Xinhua in an interview that “I think there’s enormous opportunity for IMAX to expand in China. We’ll absolutely aggressively pursue that opportunity.” Two new trends in China’s cinema industry have given IMAX impetus to pursue its ambitious business agenda, said Gelfond. First, he anticipated that many more movie theaters of all kinds will be open in China owing to the rapid growth of the cinema industry in China.

Hollywood updates Facebook in lineup of fall movies

LOS ANGELES, 4 Sept—“Social media” is among today’s most popular catch phrases thanks to the success of, among other things, networking website Facebook — the favoured way for today’s youth to communicate on a global level.

Now Facebook is the subject of what’s expected to be the fall’s most anticipated movie, “The Social Network,” which is among a slew of titles including “Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps” and the Clint Eastwood-directed “Hereafter” that Hollywood will usher into theaters this fall movie season.

With the summer season coming to an official close over this weekend’s Labour Day holiday in the United States, it’s back to school for kids; back to work for adults; back to drama in movies, and onto Oscar season for Hollywood. “It’s a heavy, early fall,” said Entertainment Weekly movie writer Dave Karger. “Once Labour Day hits, things get pretty heavy, pretty quickly.” — Reuters
Italy football coach praises fledgling team

TALLINN, 4 Sept — Italy coach Cesare Prandelli praised his fledgling team and claimed they were on the right path following their 2-1 win against Estonia.

Italy were far from impressive in their Euro 2012 qualifying Group C opener but they did grind out the victory despite falling behind to Sergei Zenjov’s surprise first half goal.

Antonio Cassano and Leonardo Bonucci hit back after the break to give Italy their first win in eight matches and first of this calendar year. Prandelli said that his players are slowly developing into a cohesive unit. — Internet

Evergreen Klose strikes to sink Belgium

BRUSSELS, 4 Sept — Evergreen striker Miroslav Klose backed up his wish to keep playing until the next World Cup with a second-half goal to seal Germany’s 1-0 win over Belgium in Friday’s Euro 2012 qualifier. Klose, 32, who has 14 World Cup goals to his credit and is just one away from matching Ronaldo’s all-time record, scored his 33rd goal for his country on his 102nd appearance.

“It is always a bit difficult after a World Cup, because we still don’t have the match practice,” said Klose, after Germany finished third in South Africa. “We did well here, but in the first half we turned over too much possession.” — Internet

Germany’s forward Miroslav Klose reacts after falling during the Euro 2012 group A qualifying football match. — Internet

England’s Jermain Defoe (C) celebrates scoring a goal against Bulgaria during the Euro 2012 qualifying. — Internet

Hat-trick hero Defoe relishing Rooneу partnership

LONDON, 4 Sept — Jermain Defoe believes his partnership with Wayne Rooney has put England back on track after the strike duo tormentened Bulgaria in Friday’s 4-0 victory at Wembley.

Defoe gave a masterclass in the art of lethal finishing as the Tottenham striker became the first England player to score a hat-trick since Theo Walcott’s treble against Croatia two years ago. But Defoe was happy to give most of the credit for his goal-spre to Rooney, who finally cast off the lethargy that dogged him at the World Cup to play a decisive role in all four England goals in their opening Euro 2012 qualifier. — Internet

Tain’s forward David Villa(L) celebrates after scoring his team’s second goal with teammate. — Internet

Blanc ‘not worried’ after Belarus football shock

PARIS, 4 Sept — Laurent Blanc refused to press the panic button despite seeing France fail to a disappointing 0-0 defeat at home to Belarus in their opening Euro 2012 qualifier here on Friday.

With a number of key players unavailable, France struggled to prise open the Belarusian defence and were beaten by an 86th-minute goal from substitute Sergei Kisljak.

It was a bitterly disappointing result for Blanc, who was overseeing his first competitive match since taking over from Raymond Domenech after the World Cup, but he insisted he was not worried. — Internet

Euro 2012 qualifier results on 3 Sept

Kazakhstan 0 - 3 Turkey
Belgium 0 - 1 Germany
Austria 0 - 1 Rep of Ireland
Andorra 0 - 2 Russia
Slovakia 1 - 0 Rep of Macedonia
Faroe Islands 0 - 3 Serbia
Estonia 1 - 2 Italy
Sweden 0 - 1 Northern Ireland
Romania 1 - 1 Albania
Lithuania 0 - 1 Belgium
Luxembourg 0 - 3 Bosnia-Herzegovina
France 0 - 1 Belarus
Latvia 0 - 3 Croatia
Greece 1 - 1 Greece
Montenegro 1 - 0 Wales
England 4 - 0 Bulgaria
Portugal 4 - 3 Cyprus
Iceland 1 - 2 Norway
Lithuania 0 - 0 Scotland
Liechtenstein 0 - 4 Spain

Torres back in business as Spain cruise

VADUZ, 4 Sept — Liverpool forward Fernando Torres scored a brace as world champions Spain began their European title defence with a convincing 4-0 win over Liechtenstein on Friday in their opening Euro 2012 Group I qualifier for the Euro 2012 finals. It was Spain’s first competitive match since lifting the World Cup in South Africa on July 11 and the Euro 2008 winners were far too strong for hapless Liechtenstein.

After failing to score at the World Cup finals, Torres rediscovered his goalscoring touch on 18 minutes with a beautiful chip to open the scoring as he continues to get back to his best after injury and his 26th international goal moves him fifth alongside senior politician

Jimenez shoots 61 for lead at European Masters

CRANS-SUR-SIERRE, 4 Sept — Miguel Angel Jimenez shot a 10-under 61 on Friday to take a three-stroke lead after the second round of the European Masters.

The 46-year-old Spaniard had two eagles to produce the lowest score of his 28-year professional career in the build up to his fourth Ryder Cup appearance at Celtic Manor next month. It also lowered the course record from the 62 shot by Eduardo Romero in 2000. — Internet

Miguel Angel Jimenez from Spain looks at the ball during the second round of the Omega European Masters. — Internet

I’m not so old

NEW YORK, 4 Sept — At just 23 years old, Maria Sharapova considers herself sti to be in the bloom of youth, but things are moving fast.

Her third-round match at the US Open on Saturday will see her take on 18-year-old American wildcard Beatrice Capra, who idolised the Russian glamour girl as she was growing up.

Belarus’ goalkeeper Yuri Zhevno catches the ball during the Euro 2012 qualifying match against France. — Internet

Crosswords puzzle

Across
1 Entirely
4 Instructions
7 Throttled
9 Exercise franchise
10 Faint colouration
11 Fast
13 Recently
14 A late meal
15 Wim
17 Savage
19 Saturn satellite
20 AActual
22 Hypocritical talk
23 Active at night
24 A maze...
Whole rat found in can of beans

LONDON, 4 Sept—British health authorities say a cook discovered a whole rat upon opening a catering-sized can of baked beans. Officials did not release the name of the manufacturer but confirmed the rat was discovered in January and tests performed indicated it had gone through the canning process, The Independent reported on Friday. The health official in charge of the inquiry said the incident revealed “severe failings somewhere in the food production process,” the British newspaper said. “This one of the ultimate horror stories,” he said.—Internet

WEATHER

Saturday, 4th September, 2010
Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr. M.S.T.

During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Shan and Kayah States, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin State and Magway Region, scattered in Mandalay Region, fairly widespread in Kayin and Mon States, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and widespread in the remaining States and Regions with locally heavy falls in Taninthayi Region and isolated heavy falls in Mon State and lower Sagaing Region. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Ye (3.35) inches, Longon (3.27) inches, Dawei (1.55) inches, Pyapon (2.83) inches, Mawin (2.32) inches, Thanlyin (2.17) inches, M yek (1.85) inches, Kaikhalma (1.81) inches, Shweyin (1.62) inches and Shwebo (1.58) inches.

Nay Pyi Taw Weather
Maximum temperature on 3-9-2010 was 95°F. Minimum temperature on 4-9-2010 was 79°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 4-9-2010 was (84%).

Yangon (Kaba-Aye)
Maximum temperature on 3-9-2010 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 4-9-2010 was 76°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 4-9-2010 was (100%).

Total sunshine hours on 3-9-2010 was (2.2) hours. Rainfall on 4-9-2010 was (1.18) inches at Mingaladon, (0.75) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.38) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2010 was (60.83) inches at Mingaladon, (67.95) inches at Kaba-Aye and (78.19) inches at Central Yangon.

Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (5) mph from South at (12:30) hours MST on 3-9-2010.

Bay of Bengal
Forecast valid until afternoon of the 5th September 2010.

Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kachin State and Magway Region, scattered in Kayin and Shan States and Mandalay Region, fairly widespread in Chin State, Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and widespread in the remaining States and Regions.

Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate to moderately heavy falls in Kaiph toonek State and widespread in the remaining States and Regions.

Degree of certainty is (60%).

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL Programme Schedule
(5-9-2010) (Sunday)

Transmissions Times
Local -* 09:00 am - 11:00 am MST
Oversea Transmission - (5-9-10 09:30 am - 6-9-10 09:30 am) MST

Local Transmission
* Opening
* News
* Environmental Conservation from the Myanmar Cultural Perspective
* Music
* Music Gallery
* Beautiful Magway
* News
* I Love Myanmar
* News
* Colourful Feelings
* Trish Gallery’s Art Atmosphere

Oversea Transmission
* Opening
* News
* Environmental Conservation from the Myanmar Cultural Perspective
* News
* Music
* Music Gallery
* Beautiful Magway
* News
* I Love Myanmar
* News
* Trish gallery’s Art Atmosphere
* News
* Trish Gallery’s Art Atmosphere
* News
* The Strokes of Myanmar
* News
* Ancient Buddha Images Carved on Stone Walls (A Kauk Mountain)
* VCD Centre
* News
* Mu raik U, Treasure Trove of Rakhine Culture
* News
* Myanmar M Movie “Beyond Love”

People visit the foreign tourism section at the 2010 China Guilin International Tourism Expo in Guilin, southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 3 Sept, 2010.

XINHUA

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

The New Light of Myanmar Sunday, 5 September, 2010
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 killer broadcasts designed to cause troubles

MBF swings into action for achievements not only in SEA but also in the world

The Myanmar Boxing Federation President’s Trophy National Boxing Championship took place at Aung San Gymnasium from 23 to 27 August 2010. It was the first ever competition of the federation reconstituted on 6 June 2010. Famous artistes performed entertainment at the opening ceremony of the championship, and the prize presentation ceremony was held on a grand scale similar to that of the opening ceremony. President of the federation U Yan Win, the secretary and executives enjoyed the matches of the boxers throughout the competition period. Boxers and referees were provided brand new sports gear and uniforms. In the past, the first prize winner won about K 10,000 only.

(See page 9)

Stake driven for rural library in Lashio Township

LASHIO, 4 Sept—A ceremony to drive stakes for construction of Linyaungchi Library was held in Panhset Village in Sintin Village-tract of Lashio Township yesterday morning.

District Information and Public Relations Department Staff Officer Daw Khin Saw Lin, Deputy Head of IPRD Daw Khin Nyunt, Chairman of Village Peace and Development Council U Kyaw N Aing and members, village elders and members of the library committee drove stakes. The plan is under way to build the 27 feet long, 19 feet wide and 14 feet high library with the concrete floor and the roof of corrugated iron sheets. The building will be constructed with K 1 million contribution by the State and K 1.5 million by the local people.—DISTRICT IPRD

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (4-9-2010)

Ye (3.35) inches
Longlon (3.27) inches
Dawei (3.15) inches
Pyapun (2.83) inches
Maubin (2.32) inches
Theinzayat (2.17) inches
Shwegyin (1.62) inches
Shwebo (1.58) inches

Two boxers seen in the ring of MBF President’s Trophy National Boxing Championship.