**Four political objectives**
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

**Four economic objectives**
- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

**Four social objectives**
- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

**Bio-fuel saves money and energy, reduces environmental pollution and deforestation**

**Prime Minister inspects natural waste biogas digesters**

**Panmon Creek Bridge in Kalay Township facilitates regional transport**

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**Bio-fuel saves money and energy, reduces environmental pollution and deforestation**

Prime Minister inspects natural waste biogas digesters

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Panmon Creek Bridge on Kalay-Gangaw road near Natchaung Village of Kalay Township, Kalay District, Sagaing Division.
PERSPECTIVES
Monday, 27 October, 2008

Towards more investments in China and ASEAN

Asia is the region that enjoys the fastest economic growth. China has become an economic power in the twenty first century and it can maintain its economic growth. With the rapid growth of exports and imports, China has created a favourable environment for foreign investment.

ASEAN is taking effective measures for greater economic cooperation in the region with the objective of forming an ASEAN economic community in 2015. ASEAN region rich in natural and human resources is the one that offers good business opportunities for investors.

Business and Investment Summits between China and ASEAN have been held and thanks to their cooperation, achievements have been made not only in trade and investment sectors but in other economic fields.

As Myanmar and the People’s Republic of China carry out tasks on promotion of economic cooperation, trade and investment, annual volume of trade between the two countries is on the increase. Most of the investments are in the sectors of mining, industry, oil and natural gas and electricity.

Today the world is facing fuel and food crisis and ways and means are to be sought to exploit new energy resources and to produce alternative energy in the ASEAN region. In the process, efficient cooperation among the nations is vital. As the agriculture sector plays a main role in economic development of most ASEAN nations, exchange of technology and research are necessary for boosting food production.

Progress has been made in the efforts to establish Free Trade Area under the cooperation programme between China and ASEAN. Holding the 4th China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit in Nanning, PRC, will continue to contribute to producing better results in trade and investment between ASEAN and China.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence inspects Zee Creek Dam project in Kyauktaw Township.— MNA

YANGON, 26 Oct—Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Rakhine State Peace and Development Council Commander of Western Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye and officials met family members of regional battalion in Kyauktaw on 21 October.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw presented provisions to them and inspected Zee Creek Dam Project.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party observed cultivation of paddy with the use of power tillers and harvesting and winnowing in Nankyar Village tract in Mrauk-U Township. He also inspected harvesting of paddy in Nayan Village tract in Minbya Township and groundnut, mustard sunflower, niger and matpe seeds.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw inspected maintenance of Yamaung suspension Bridge in Minbya Township and he presented provisions to families of regional battalion in Myebon Township.

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw and party inspected road sections of Yangon-Sittway Road and maintenance of Yaw Creek Bridge.

MCG CO Ltd honours dealers

YANGON, 26 Oct—CHIGO Air-Conditioners MCG Co Ltd honoured its dealers and hosted a dinner at Park Royal Hotel here today.

First, Director U Nay Myo Aung extended greetings and then Director U Kyaw Swa Myint presented awards to dealers.

Personnel of the Co., sales representatives and mediamen attended the ceremony.

Next, lucky draw winners were chosen and directors presented prizes to them. MCG Co Ltd has distributed brand of CHAGO Air-Con in the country as a sole agent. It is equipped with fault finding system and four-system air swim. The company has conducted servicing for quality of air-con. It also provides a three-year warranty.

For more information, Contact MCG Co Ltd at No 216 on 38th Street in Kyauktada Township and dial 705060, 373472, 09 5176789, 09 50 66939.

MNA

Paper reading session on 1 Nov

YANGON, 26 Oct—Organic Crops Groups of Myanmar Kitchen Crops Producers Association will hold paper reading session on Strategies and Approaches for Promotion of Organic Agriculture in Myanmar, organized by Myanmar Academic of Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock and Fishery Science at Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Minyekyawswa road in Lammadaw Township in 1 November. EM Technology experts from Japan will take part in paper reading session and anyone interested in it may participate in it.—MNA

Director U Nay Myo Aung of MCG Co Ltd extends greeting at the ceremony to present prize to dealers.—MNA

U Kyaw Hsan hands over K 1 million donated by engineers (Civil-1981) for the 3rd Respect Paying to teachers to Chairman of the Organizing Committee for Respect Paying U Oha Kyaw at Myanmar Engineers Society in Yangon University on Ilhne Campus on 25 October.—MEC

Regional development in Rakhine State inspected

Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of Ministry of Defence inspects Zee Creek Dam project in Kyauktaw Township.— MNA
Iraqi Sunni party suspends contact with US over raid

BAGHDAD, 26 Oct — Iraq’s leading Sunni party said on Saturday that it is cutting contact with the US to protest against an operation targeting its members in the Anbar province.

The Iraqi Islamic Party, headed by Vice President Tanir al-Hashimi, said in a statement that it has decided to suspend all formal contact with American civilians or military personnel until it receives an explanation along with a formal apology.

On Friday operation, at a village near the city of Falluja led to the death of people and arrests of five — all senior members of the party in Falluja, according to the statement. The US military said it provided support to Iraqi troops in the raid, in which one suspected terrorist leader was captured and another militant was killed.

The party demands the release of the arrested people and compensation. The incident happened as Iraqi political parties are reviewing a key security agreement draft which will provide legal status for the US troops in Iraq in the following years.— Internet

US military deaths in
Iraq war at 4,187

WASHINGTON, 26 Oct — As of Saturday, 25 Oct, 2008, at least 4,187 members of the US military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,387 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military’s numbers.

The British military has reported 176 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.— Internet

Eight killed in fighting in
Pakistan border region

KHAR (Pakistan), 26 Oct — A Pakistani official says government forces have killed eight militants in an offensive against fighters near the Afghan border.

Official Jamil Khan said helicopters and artillery pounded militant positions early Sunday in Bajur, a region considered a stronghold of Taliban and al-Qaida militants. Khan said reports from the region indicate that eight insurgents died and several others suffered injuries in the latest assault. He gave no information about troop or civilian casualties.

Earlier this week, the military captured a town that controls several key roads in Bajur. It said a total of 1,500 militants, 73 troops and 95 civilians had died in the two-month offensive. Those figures have not been independently verified.— Internet

Bombing in Iraq kills
driver, wounds general

BAGHDAD, 26 Oct — A bomb attached to a car carrying an Iraqi Army general exploded on Saturday afternoon, killing the driver and wounding the general and a bystander, an Interior Ministry official said.

The official said Gen Abdul Karim Jabbar was seriously wounded when the bomb went off between al-Firdous Square and al-Andalus Square. The US military refers to bombs attached to civilian vehicles without the driver’s knowledge as “sticky bombs.”

Separately, a civilian was killed and five were wounded in afternoon clashes between gunmen and Iraqi National Police in the al-Shaab neighborhood of northeastern Baghdad, the ministry official said.

In the same neighborhood, a roadside bomb exploded at an Iraqi army checkpoint Baghdad, killing a child, the Interior Ministry official said.

The blast also wounded four Iraqi soldiers. Also Saturday, two Iraqi soldiers were killed and another was wounded when a roadside bomb struck an Iraqi army patrol on Palestine Street in eastern Baghdad.— Internet
Darfur attacks ‘displace 12,000, kill more than 40’

Khartoum, 26 Oct — Arab militia attacks on Sudanese villages near a south Darfur flash point displaced up to 12,000 people and killed more than 40 civilians, an aid worker and a rights watchdog said on Saturday. Clear-cut details on who was behind the fighting, the full extent of damage and casualties remain elusive because of minimal humanitarian access to the area around Muhagiriya, east of the South Darfur state capital, Nyala.

“At least 15 villages were attacked and burnt, and about 12,000 people displaced,” one international aid worker told AFP.

SUV collides with car in Tenn crash, killing five

In this photo rendered from video and provided by WBIR-TV, authorities investigate the scene of a fatal two-vehicle accident, on 25 Oct, 2008, near Huntsville, Tenn. A sport utility vehicle full of high school cheerleaders collided with an oncoming car in a fiery crash on wet, foggy highway in rural northeastern Tennessee, killing four people, authorities said on Saturday. — Internet

Huntsville (Tenn), 26 Oct — A rural East Tennessee community was grieving on Saturday for four high school cheerleaders who died in a fiery car crash hours after they had been cheering on their football team.

A sport utility vehicle carrying the cheerleaders collided with an oncoming car late Friday night on a wet, foggy highway in Scott County, near northeast of Knoxville, authorities said. A passenger in the car also was killed.

Ashley Mason, 15, had been ejected from the vehicle and taken to University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville. She died Saturday night, said Myla Romines, an administrative supervisor. “It’s more than a shock and we are just horrified,” said Cynthia Reynolds, the cheerleading coach at Scott High School. She said the girls went out after the game to celebrate another cheerleader’s birthday.

“They were really, really close.” Police identified the other three teenagers killed as Scarlett A. Hill, 17; Jaime Hill, 15; and driver Shirley N. Hughett, 16. A passenger in the car, Jeweline N. Ledbetter King, 49, was killed. King’s 22-year-old daughter-in-law, Miranda King, was sitting in the back seat and lost her unborn child because of injuries from the crash. — Internet

Palestinian Fayer Muhammed, 56, works inside his tent reshaping iron into farming tools in the west bank village of Ommit Safa, near Ramallah on 24 Oct, 2008. While the developed world frets over a credit crisis and looming recession, a World Bank report published on Thursday describes a slow-burning economic disaster in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. — Internet

Nigerian pirates storm French oil vessel

LAGOS, 26 Oct — Pirates stormed and ransacked a French vessel Saturday in Nigeria’s restive oil-rich south but there were no casualties, a company spokes

woman said. The ship owned by the Bourbon group was stormed around 0900 GMT south of the Niger Delta, Christia Roqueblave told AFP.

“The pirates stormed aboard and stole things and equipment but there were no human problems, no wounded,” she said. The vessel has a 17-member French and Nigerian crew.

Mayor, villager killed in blast in Georgia

TRISHL (Georgi a), 26 Oct — An explosion killed the mayor of a small town near the separatist region of Abkhazia early Saturday morning, Georgia’s Interior Ministry said. The explosion killed Muhvaja Mayor Gia Melboua while he was inspecting a house damaged by overnight shelling. A villager was also killed and a local police officer was seriously injured.

The explosion comes at a time of increasing tensions in the areas surrounding the breakaway republics of South Ossetia and Abkhazia. Russia and Georgia fought a war over South Ossetia in August.

Ministry spokesman Shota Ushavishvi said authorities found an antenna near the blast site and suspected the explosives were detonated by remote control. Ushavishvi blamed separatists and their backers. “We are working now only on one version and this is the Abkhaz and the Russians,” Ushavishvi said.

“Nobody else.” — Internet

Another aid worker killed in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 26 Oct — The head of a Somali aid agency says a gun

man shot dead a Somali woman employee in the latest of a string of attacks on the humanitarian community.

Duniya Sheikh Daud was the 15th aid worker killed so far this year in Somalia, which is caught up in a civil war.

Ali Sheik, the head of aid agency Iida, said Daud was killed on Saturday evening as she returned from work at the organization in the central Somali town of Guriel.

The group campaigns for women’s rights and against female genital mutilation. It was unclear who was behind the attack.

Internet
China’s Vice Premier calls for equal job opportunities for rural and urban residents

BEIJING, 26 Oct — Chinese Vice Premier Hui Liangyu said on Saturday farmers should share equal job opportunities with urban residents, which was key to realize the government goal of doubling farmer’s income by 2020.

Farmers were encouraged to start their own business and local government should work out more favorable policies including preferential taxation and easier market access to help farmers find jobs and business opportunities, Hui said at a prize award ceremony of the elite rural entrepreneurs.

The reform and innovation of the rural banking system should be pushed forward so as to resolve the rural residents’ problem of cash shortage in starting their own business, Hui said. China vowed to double rural residents’ income from the current level by the end of 2012 as a part of the plan aimed to revitalize the country’s rural area and agriculture, which was proved on the Third Plenary Session of the 17th Communist Party of China Central Committee.

Bangladesh expects to export $100m worth knitwear to Japan

DHAKA, 26 Oct — Bangladesh’s knitwear export to Japan could reach 100 million US dollars in the next fiscal year (July 2009-June 2010), Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) President Fazul Hoque said here on Saturday.

“Bangladesh’s knitwear export to Japan was 6 million US dollars in the last fiscal (July 2007-June 2008). But the figure will go up incredibly in the next fiscal. Our preliminary talks with leading Japanese buyers have strengthened our belief,” Hoque told Xinhua. He noted that at least 11 leading Japanese buyers have visited many local factories.

Japan, the world’s second largest economy, is the fourth largest knitwear importing nation in the world. It imported knitwear products worth 10.37 billion US dollars in 2006 and its market has been growing at a pace of 11.73 percent per year since 2002. China is the largest suppliers of knitwear products to Japan accounting for about 86.49 percent to 8.98 billion US dollars of the Japan’s total knitwear imports in 2006, followed by Italy.

At least 58 killed in Yemen floods

SANAA, 26 Oct — At least 58 people have been killed by floods which hit southeastern Yemen following two days of heavy rainfall, the official SABA news agency reported on Saturday, citing the interior ministry.

Up to Saturday morning, at least 58 people have died in the eastern provinces of Hadramout, Mahra and Taiz due to heavy rain and ensuing floods, according to the interior ministry.

The downpour also demolished hundreds of houses, displaced hundreds of families and affected many infrastructure projects, including the electricity and telephone networks, said the report. The death toll might hike as the damage counting is still underway in the flooded areas.

Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh on Saturday inspected the flood-stricken area to oversee the aid and relief works, according to the SABA.

“The damages are great and the catastrophe is also great,” said the president while inspecting the province of Mahra, assuring that reconstructing roads, facilities and services will be high on the agenda after the initial rescue efforts.

All items from Xinhua News Agency

China continues to attract Swedish companies

STOCKHOLM, 26 Oct — More and more Swedish companies are investing in China with an average one company entering the Chinese market each four days, the Swedish daily Dagens Industri reported on Saturday.

From July 2007 to June 2008, almost 100 Swedish companies set up branches in China, according to a survey published on the newspaper.

Most of the newly-established firms in China are small companies, whose employees are usually less than 100, said the survey, conducted jointly by Swedish bank SEB and the Swedish Trade Council.

Swedish companies based in China have a tradition of producing export goods, but they begin focusing on the Chinese market now, it added.

“More and more Swedish companies become interested in China. Investing and coming to China is an obvious trend among Swedish businessmen now,” Carl Christensson, the chief of SEB in Shanghai, told Dagens Industri.

China police take part in a fire fighting skills presentation with rescue dogs in Jinan, capital of east China’s Shandong Province, on 25 Oct, 2008. The four dogs, which had received special training of fire fighting at the training center of Fire Controlling Bureau of Shandong Province for two years, are important assistants of the firemen during their daily patrol.

Vice premier inspects epicenter reconstruction

WENCHUAN (Sichuan), 26 Oct — Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang arrived at the 12 May quake epicenter Sunday morning to inspect the reconstruction work.

Li, member of the Standing Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee Political Bureau, visited Yingxiu Town, Wenchuan County of southwest Sichuan Province to see the progress of the post-quake reconstruction and console the survivors.

The 8.0-magnitude quake has left more than 80,000 people dead or missing.

Chinese police take part in a fire fighting skills presentation with rescue dogs in Jinan, capital of east China’s Shandong Province, on 25 Oct, 2008. The four dogs, which had received special training of fire fighting at the training center of Fire Controlling Bureau of Shandong Province for two years, are important assistants of the firemen during their daily patrol.

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Japanese meat company recalls tainted sausage, pizza

**Tokyo**, 26 Oct — Japan's second largest meat processor Ioham Foods Inc. has begun recalling more than two million packs of sausage and pizza products possibly containing toxic chemicals, a company spokesman said on Sunday. The company admitted late Saturday that a total of 2.67 million packs produced and sold last month in the country could be tainted with toxic cyanogen compounds exceeding the government's health safety standards.

At a news conference, Ioham senior managing director Shimichi Yamada apologised for the possible contamination and a delay in its announcement of the case. "Our crisis management was insufficient. We would like to deeply apologise to our customers," Yamada said, adding that the company, however, has so far received no reports of health problems.

Ioham found the toxic substances in water from wells at its factory in Kashiwa, Chiba Prefecture, east of Tokyo.

It used the water for production of the packs. Japan has been on alert after a series of health scares involving food, mostly made in China.—*Internet*

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**Washington, 26 Oct** — A vaccine against rotavirus, the leading cause of diarrhea in infants, has led to a dramatic drop in hospitalization and emergency room visits since it came on the market two years ago, doctors reported on Saturday.

A bonus: the vaccine seems to be preventing illness even in unvaccinated children by cutting the number of infections in the community that kids can pick up and spread.

"We're a little surprised by the degree of impact given the coverage we've achieved," said Jane Seward of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Only about half of young children had received the vaccine and very few had received all three doses when the studies were done. Results were reported on Saturday at an infectious disease conference in Washington. Before the vaccine, more than 200,000 US children were taken to emergency rooms and more than 55,000 were hospitalized each year with rotavirus, which causes vomiting and diarrhea, mostly from January through May.

Worldwide, the virus kills 1,600 young children each day.

Since Merck & Co's Rotateq came out in 2006, hospital visits and stays due to the virus have dropped 80 percent to 100 percent, studies by the CDC and several other groups show.—*Internet*

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**Thad Starr's giant pumpkin really took the prize**

Thad Starr's giant pumpkin really took the prize at the East Pyongyang Grand Theater.

INTERNET

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**A pizza chef prepares a wood-fired oven to bake the famous Italian dish.**

*Internet*
A drama troupe representing Yangon Division participates in the drama contest.—MNA

Yangon Div presents Buridat Drama

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—The Buridat Drama Contest of the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued at the convocation hall of the University of Veterinary Science here this evening. The drama troupe representing Yangon Division took part in the contest.

Among the audience were Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the State Peace and Development Council Office, Secretary of the leading committee for holding the competitions Director-General of the Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department U San Win, Secretary of the work committee Director-General of the Fine Arts Department U Yan Naing Oo and members, judges and officials.

All the competitions including the drama contest were successfully concluded today.—MNA

16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held on final day

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—The 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions continued on final day at the designated places in Nay Pyi Taw Yezin University Campus today.

Among the audience were Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint, Deputy Minister for Industry-2 Lt-Col Khin Maung Kyaw, the Secretary of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Competitions, the Secretary of the Work Committee for Organizing the Competitions, judges (central), judges from states and divisions, contestants and national races.

Altogether 24 participants competed in the amateur level second class men’s and women’s and higher education level men’s and women’s mandolin contest at the assembly hall of the Forest Research Department.

A total of fifteen contestants participated in the higher education level women’s and basic education level (aged 15-20) girl’s xylophone contest at the lecture hall of the University of Agriculture.

Altogether nine troupes took part in the higher education level women’s and amateur level second class men’s and basic education level (aged 15-20) girl’s orchestra (troupe) contest at the convocation hall of the University of Agriculture.

A contestant competes in the amateur level second class women’s mandolin contest.—MNA

A contestant competes in the higher education level women’s mandolin contest.—MNA

A contestant participating in the higher education level men’s xylophone contest.—MNA

A contestant participating in the higher education level women’s xylophone contest.—MNA

A troupe of Ayeyawady Division taking part in the higher education level women’s orchestra troupe contest.—MNA

A contestant participating in the higher education level women’s orchestra troupe contest.—MNA
The Kathina Robes offering ceremony was held at the Kyakhatwaing Pariyatti Monastery in Bago yesterday. Min Kyi Pe, the Kyakhatwaing Pariyatti Monastery, welcomed the Defence personnel and the public. Defeated Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein inspected bio-security level 2 enhanced animal health laboratory. The new laboratory is capable of testing different kinds of bird flu in addition to normal diagnosis. Next, the minister and party inspected the Ngwesinpaieae Cattle Breeding Industry and the Ahman Dairy Cattle Farm in Laydaungkan Ward in Mingaladon Township. At the Shwepazun Dairy Farm in Pale Myothit in Mingaladon Township, the minister inspected dairy products and spoke of the need to produce high-quality dairy products. 

Bio-security Level 2 Enhanced Animal Health Laboratory of LBVD opened

YANGON, 26 Oct — A ceremony to open the Bio-security Level 2 Enhanced Animal Health Laboratory was held at the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department on Station Road in Insein Township here yesterday.

Senior Advisor Dr Masao Sasaki clarified matters related to upgrading of the laboratory. Next, Deputy Head of OIE Asia and Pacific Regional Office Dr Kenji Sakurai, Resident Representative of FAO Dr Shin Imai and Director-General of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department U Maung Maung Nyunt made speeches and formally opened the laboratory. Afterwards, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung Then presented items in commemoration of the opening ceremony and looked into the new laboratory.

The laboratory constructed by LBVD under the Bird Flu Control Programme of FAO was upgraded to the Bio-security Level 2 Enhanced Animal Health Laboratory, Being facilitated with modern equipment including Conventional PCR, Real Time PCR and Gene Sequencer, the new laboratory is capable of testing different kinds of bird flu in addition to normal diagnosis.

The Prime Minister visited the instrumental laboratory and inspected the testing of melamine content in imported milk powder. Deputy factory manager Daw Ohn Yi reported on matters related to testing of melamine content in milk powder.

The Prime Minister gave necessary instructions and left there at 3.15 p.m. MNA

Kyakhatwaing Monastery holds 60th Kathina Robes offering

NAV PSI TAW, 26 Oct — The 60th Kathina robes offering ceremony of Kyakhatwaing Pariyatti Monstery was held at the monastery in Bago yesterday. Maj-Gen Ko Ko of the Ministry of Defence attended the Kathina Robes offering ceremony. Afterwards, Maj-Gen Ko Ko inspected paddy harvesting of a modal farm at Mayin Village in the township and greeted the farmers.

Hsinthwelat paddy strains can produce 104 baskets of rice per acre. Myingyar harvester can harvest 2 acres per day and AMR-994 harvester, 6 acres per day.

Bio-fuel saves money and energy,

(from page 1)

In meeting with officials, the Prime Minister spoke of the need to build digester in every village by convincing the households that they can do the cooking and light storm-lanterns with the use of bio-fuel derived from animal waste of five or six heads of cattle, to get the rural people to use bio-fuel extensively for improvement of their living conditions and the remaining bio fertilizers and bio solution for the growing of crops and to conduct multiplier courses on installation and use of bio-fuel boilers.

About 20 pounds of waste of four to five heads of cattle, five pigs or 15 goats are enough to run the bio-fuel digester. With the use of bio-fuel, many things such as cooking, boiling of water and lighting of two 40 watt bulbs per night can be done without any danger. The waste liquid from the digester can be used as feedstuff for pigs and fish and for plantations.

It can also be spread on dried hay to produce powerful natural fertilizers. Use of bio-fuel can save money and energy and reduce environmental pollution and deforestation.

Afterwards, the Prime Minister studied research work on producing anti-venom from chicken eggs. Assistant factory manager Dr Aung Zaw reported on production process. Minister U Aung Thaung reported on production of anti-venom from horse blood.

Later, the Prime Minister visited the instrumental laboratory and inspected the testing of melamine content in imported milk powder. Deputy factory manager Daw Ohn Yi reported on matters related to testing of melamine content in milk powder.

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Corner stones laid for religious buildings
YANGON, 26 Oct—A ceremony to lay corner stones at Dhammavihara Pathamakayaw monastery building in Thingyangyun township took place yesterday. It was attended by Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence. He accepted cash donations.—MNA

Teachers to promote the quality of basic education schools...
Rural development tasks carried out in accord with the guidance of the Head of State have brought about development of the rural areas where majority of the people live. The momentum of the efforts for rural development and experiences gained much contribution towards relief and rehabilitation tasks in Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions. Relief and rehabilitation tasks gained momentum due to smooth rural roads. In some regions water tanks could withstand the storm and wells and lakes were rebuilt for supply of safe and clean water in those regions.

Pyinmana-Pinlong road upgraded
NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence, together with Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Ya Pyae and departmental officials visited No.15 Sugar Mill (Shwe Nyaung), Khaungdine Langwe, Taunglaylone village-tract, and paddy plantations and other crop plantations on both sides of the road and construction of approach road to Laneli bridge on 25 October.

Press conference on educational services and objectives of Shine Universal Services Co Ltd
YANGON, 26 Oct—A press conference on educational services and objectives of Shine Universal Services Co Ltd was held at the Sedona Hotel yesterday afternoon. At the press conference, responsible persons briefed on the establishment of Shine Co and its objectives, education services offered by the company, the reason why one should go to Singapore that is trying to become an educational hub and education programmes.

Pyinmana-Pinlong road upgraded
NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing on 26 October at No.15 Sugar Mill (Shwe Nyaung), Khaungdine Langwe, Taunglaylone village-tract, and paddy plantations and other crop plantations on both sides of the road and construction of approach road to Laneli bridge on 25 October.

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Minister for Science and Technology
U Thaung presents prize to a trainee.—MNA

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U Thaung presents prize to a trainee.—MNA

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Panmon Creek Bridge in Kalay Township facilitates regional transport

Article & Photos: Kalay Win Thu

Panmon Creek Bridge in Kalay Township facilitates regional transport

(received page 1) recede and passed it. As Panmon Creek originates on the hill, its current is swift. If human beings and cattle tried to pass the creek while the water was falling from the hill, they would be swept away.

Whenever water overflowed at the creek, students of Ngapha Village on the opposite bank of Panmon Creek, missed the classes at Naychaung Basic Education High School. In the rainy season, the students missed their classes. Now, they have no difficulty to pursue education at the school by passing through the bridge day or night.

Thanks to construction of the bridge, local products from Ngapha Village can be sold at Natchaung Village Market at any time. The bridge as a good transport facility reflects the goodwill of the government toward the national people.

Panmon Creek Bridge inaugurated on 23 May 2004 is now over four years old. The bridge is still beautiful and in good shape as it was on the opening day. Images of Panmon Creek Bridge and Chin Hills in the background may be seen as a beautiful painting.

Whenever I strolled through Panmon Creek Bridge, I enjoyed the scenic beauty of the bridge, flow of water in the creek and misty Chin Hills. The dream of local people came true when the bridge was built. The bridge was put into service when I was 58 years old. Indeed, the bridge contributes much to better transport of the local people not only from our Natchaung Village but also from Chin State. Moreover, the bridge is a vital transport facility for Myanmar-India border trade, along Gangaw-Htilin-Yaw region and for enabling the people to have easy access to Kalay, Kalewa and Tamu.

Actually, the bridge plays an important role in Myanmar-India border trade. By passing through the bridge, local people can travel to the respective regions along the routes of Kalay-Mandalay, Kalay-Monywa, Kalay-Pakokku-Gangaw, Kalay-Mindat-Matupi, Kalay-Falam-Haka-Tiddim, Kalay-Tamu-Kalewa day and night. Local people do not need to spend much time in travelling from Kalay to Mandalay. Travel time can be saved between Kalay and Yaw region. The bridge links Kalay with townships of Chin State. As such, the bridge across Panmon Creek contributes to smooth transport for the local people as well as enhancement of education, health, economic and social sectors of the local people.

Translation: TTA

100 biogas digesters to be distributed to rural villages

YANGON, 25 Oct—Minister for Industry U Aung Thaung inspected the demonstration of the biogas digester at the Myanmar Pharmaceuticals Factory (Yangon) under the Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries this morning.

He viewed the operation of biogas stove, streamer, and electric bulbs, accessories, parts of boiler, sets of finished boilers and stoves, steamers and storm-lanterns. The Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industries has a plan to distribute 100 boilers to rural villages. A boiler can be operated with the use of 20 lbs of cow, pig or goat dung. A boiler can generate electric power that is enough for a house to cook rice, prepare meals, boil water and light two 40- or 60-watt electric bulbs all night. It is harmless to operate.—MNA

MWAF conducts educative talks in Pantanaw Township

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—Head of Working Group on National Race Affairs of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Daw Kyin Khaing and those from MWAF and the working group held educative talks at Inma Village in Pantanaw Township on 21 October. First, Head of the working group Daw Kyin Khaing explained facts about women affairs and Deputy Head Professor Dr Daw May Win Aung Khin gave talks on health.

Next, they presented uniforms to members of village WAOs, booklets, magazines, journals and calendars to village library and Inma Basic Education High School before holding discussions with 433 members of villages.—MNA

Daw Kyin Khaing and members of MWAF donate books and booklets to Inma village library and Inma BEHS in Pantanaw Township.—DAD
Over 50 arrested in India migrant violence

PATNA, 26 Oct — More than 50 people were arrested and about a dozen injured in clashes with police in eastern India on Saturday in protests against attacks on migrants in the financial hub of Mumbai, police said.

Protesters vandalized railway stations, blocked rail and road traffic and caused shops to shut down in the eastern state of Bihar, as police struggled to control street violence for a sixth day in a row.

Migrant workers from Bihar said they were attacked and thrown out of Mumbai over the last week by supporters of the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS), a militant Hindu group.

Protesters in one district of Bihar squatted on railways lines and unscrewed the engine of a passenger train, demanding the punishment of the MNS leader, who was arrested on Tuesday for rioting and provoking attacks on migrants but later released on bail.

The protesters were later dispersed by baton-wielding police. “The protesters tried to take possession of a train engine and blocked railway lines but we have driven them away,” senior police official Rajesh Kumar told Reuters. — MNA/Reuters

Afghan policemen sit on a vehicle carrying bodies from the site of a shoot-out in Kabul. A Briton and a South African shot dead in Kabul were killed by one of their own guards who then committed suicide, interior ministry officials have said recently.—INTERNET

China, ASEAN agree to cooperate in tackling global financial crisis

NANNING, 26 Oct — Officials, experts and business people attending the four-day 5th China-ASEAN Expo agreed that cooperation is important to help China and ASEAN countries cope with the negative impacts of the global financial crisis.

“As long as China and ASEAN fully cooperate, we’re sure to overcome the global financial crisis,” Nicholas Tandi Dammen, deputy secretary-general of ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations), said at the closing ceremony of the expo on Saturday.

Sixteen high-level forums were held on the sidelines of the expo held in Nanning, capital city of south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, focusing on China-ASEAN cooperation in trade, investment, telecommunications, infrastructure and agriculture.

As of 4 pm Saturday, trade volume at the expo hit 6.52 billion US dollars, said Li Jinzao, vice chairman of Guangxi regional government and deputy director of the expo’s organizing committee. Total business turnover was nearly 1.6 billion US dollars, up 12.18 per cent over the 4th expo.— MNA/Xinhua

China, ASEAN agree to cooperate in tackling global financial crisis

Sri Lankan civilians held by rebels against their wishes

COLOMBO, 26 Oct — Some 200,000 civilians were being held against their wishes by Tamil Tiger rebels held territory, the Sri Lankan Government said on Saturday.

“We are aware that nearly 200,000 civilians are being held by the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) without allowing them to come over to the government controlled areas,” Rajiva Wijesinghe, the head of the government Peace Secretariat said on a private television channel.

Government troops say they are making an advance into the last two of the rebels held areas in the north, Kilinochchi and Mullaitthivu districts.

Civilians are unable to arrive in the government held areas as they are prevented by the LTTE, the government said. — MNA/Xinhua

A handout photo given by the Greek Culture Ministry shows the remains of a rare Stone Age homestead left undisturbed for nearly 6,000 years. Archaeologists in northern Greece have found the remains of a Stone Age homestead left intact for about 6,000 years, the culture ministry said on Thursday.—INTERNET

Obama lead drops to five points

WASHINGTON, 26 Oct — Democrat Barack Obama’s lead over Republican rival John McCain has dropped to 5 points, according to a Reuters/Zogby poll released on Sunday.

Obama leads McCain by 49 per cent to 44 per cent among likely US voters in the daily tracking poll, which has a margin of error of 2.9 points. Obama’s lead has dropped over the last three days after hitting a high of 12 points on Thursday.

“Things are trending back to McCain. His numbers are rising and Obama’s are dropping on a daily basis. There seems to be a direct correlation between this and McCain talking about the economy, pollster John Zogby said. Obama, 47, took the lead in most national polls in recent weeks as the financial crisis and plunging stock market seized centre stage ahead of the 4 November election.

McCain, 72, appeared slow to respond to Obama’s financial message but in recent days has ramped up the economic themes of his own campaign. On Saturday the Arizona Republican warned voters of the dangers of what he termed a Democratic take-over in both the White House and Congress. Obama has countered by seeking to link McCain’s proposals to the policies of outgoing Republican President George W Bush, who fares very poorly in public approval surveys.

MNA/Reuters

India in 2007 generated 380,000 tonnes of e-waste from discarded Computers, Televisions and Mobile Phones.—INTERNET

The Belgian flag is seen on top of the Atomium in Brussels, in recently, 2008. The Atomium, built originally for the World Fair in 1958 and then completely renovated in 2003, celebrated its 50th anniversary on Thursday.—INTERNET

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MNA/Reuters
Russia fires long range missiles

MOSCOW, 26 Oct — Russia fired three long range missiles and pronounced its nuclear deterrent strong in an extraordinary show of force experts said had not been seen anywhere since the days of the Cold War.

Two of the missiles were fired Sunday from nuclear submarines in the Asian and European extremes of the sprawling country while a third was watched by President Dmitry Medvedev on land in northwest Russia.

It was the second Russian intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) test in as many days and the latest in a series of high profile military exercises of conventional land, sea and air forces as well as strategic nuclear units.

“Shows that our deterrent is in order,” Medvedev was quoted by RIA Novosti news agency as saying after Sunday’s missile launches.

Russian Navy spokesman Igor Dygalo confirmed the near-simultaneous ICBM test launches from submarines in the Sea of Okhotsk north of Japan and the Barents Sea northeast of Norway, saying they had been planned well in advance.

Ten gunmen killed by gunfire in N Mexico

MEXICO, 26 Oct — Ten gunmen were shot dead and three policemen and three civilians were injured in a gunfire in northern Mexico, local authorities said on Friday.

The incident took place early Thursday morning in Nogales City, Mexico’s Sonora state, according to the statement of local prosecutive authority.

Ten policemen were checking a suspicious car when the gunmen on another vehicle rushed to them and opened fire. The police shot back and the cross fire resulted in the death of 10 criminals and injury of three policemen.

Hu calls for far-sightedness in relations with India

BEIJING, 26 Oct — Chinese President Hu Jintao told Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Saturday that the two most populous country should take the bilateral ties with far-sighted, strategic and long-term perspective, and properly handle concerns of each other.

China and India had maintained sound relations and economic cooperation, and collaborated in the international affairs, Hu said when meeting Singh at the sideline of the just concluded 7th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) in Beijing. “Both China and India are major developing nations in Asia, and developing good-neighborly relations had long been Chinese Government’s consistent policy,” he said. — MNA/Xinhua

Philippine jail attacked, four wounded

MANILA, 26 Oct — A band of armed men attacked a jail in the northern Philippines on Saturday night and managed to free at least seven inmates there.

The heavily armed men, alleged as members of the leftist New People’s Army (NPA), attacked the Quezon Provincial Jail at about 6:15 pm local time (1015 GMT), a jail official said. The Quezon Province is located southeast of the Philippines’ capital of Manila.

Two policemen and two civilians were wounded in the attack.

Int’l bird flu conference opens in Egypt

CAIRO, 26 Oct — The sixth international conference on bird flu kicked off Saturday morning in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh.

The two-day event, inaugurated by Egyptian Prime Minister Ahmed Nazef, gathered representatives of 124 countries and regions with some 52 health ministers, the Egyptian MENA news agency reported.

According to an earlier report, the conference was held in cooperation with the European Union and the International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza.

The meeting will focus on the role of the international community and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in face of the deadly virus.

Egyptian Health Minister Hatem el-Gabali said on Friday that the conference will also discuss the Egyptian plan to control the virus, which was “applauded by several international organizations for its transparency and effectiveness.” — MNA/Xinhua

Russian analysts expect Obama to become US president

MOSCOW, 26 Oct — Russian analysts say Democratic candidate Barack Obama is likely to defeat Republican rival John McCain, 72, in the United States presidential election set for November.

The candidates held their third and final televised debate on Wednesday, just three weeks before the election.

The head of research at the Institute of Political and Military Studies, Alexander Khramchikhin, told RIA Novosti: “The fact that he won the televised debate is not so important, as the situation has long been in his favour. I do not see what could happen in the next three weeks to prevent him from winning.” According to a CNN phone-in poll, 58 percent of respondents said Illinois Senator Obama, 47, performed better in the debate; 31 percent sided with the Arizona senator.

Leading Russian newspapers reporting on the debate, including Izvestia and the official daily Rossiyskaya Gazeta carried headlines saying Obama had emerged the clear winner, for the third time. In contrast, most headlines in the US focused on McCain’s aggressive debate tactics. — MNA/Xinhua

Hyphae taking on 24 Oct, 2008 shows giant panda twins cubs “Ping Ping” and “An An” were tended by their mother “Gao Gao” at the Bifengxia Base of the Chinese Giant Panda Research and Protection Centre, in Ya’an County, southwest China’s Sichuan Province. — INTERNET

Visit the “Temporary Museum of Modern Marx” walk on the steps past the plastic bust sculpture of German communist theorist Karl Marx in eastern German city of Chemnitz in June 2008. Whether it is simply a fashion cycle or a sign of the times, books by communist icon Marx are selling well, German publisher Joern Schuetrumpf said on Friday. — MNA/Xinhua

Miroslava Sekaninova from Slovakia helps her partner Jan Pacuch during the 2008 Wheelchair Dance Sport World Championships in Minsk, Belarus, on 25 Oct, 2008. INTERNET

I NTERNET
Australia scientists say bees can count to four

SYDNEY, 26 Oct — Researchers have discovered that honey bees can count to four, a report said here on Sunday.

A researcher from the University of Queensland put five markers inside a tunnel and placed nectar in one of them, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) radio reported.

Honey placed in the tunnel flew to the marker with the food, and would still fly to the same marker stripe when the food was removed.

“We find that if you train them to the third stripe, they will look subsequently in the third stripe,” researcher Mandyam Srinivasan said.

“If you train them to the fourth stripe, they will look at the fourth stripe and so on. But their ability to count seems to go only up to four. They can’t count beyond four.

“The more we look at these creatures that have a brain the size of a sesame seed, the more astonished we are. They really have a lot of the capacities that we so-called higher human beings possess.”

The research was carried out jointly with Swedish researcher Marie Dacke.—Internet

Strong quake shakes Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 Oct — A strong earthquake of magnitude 5.6 struck northeastern Afghanistan on Sunday, but caused no casualties or damage, a government official said.

The US Geological Survey (USGS) said on its website the quake’s epicentre was at a depth of 208 km (130 miles).

The quake occurred at about 6 am local time and was felt also in the capital, Kabul, some 260 km (160 miles) from the epicentre lying to the south of the city of Faizabad of northeastern Badakhshan Province.

Mountainous Afghanistan is an earthquake prone country.

Thousands of people were killed by earthquakes in northern Badakhshan province in the late 1990s.

Earthquake injures nine in southern Iranian port town

TEHERAN, 26 Oct — An Iranian official says a magnitude 4 earthquake has hit southern Iran, injuring nine people.

The director of Hormozgan province emergency department, Yasser Hazbavi, says the strong quake shook the port town of Kong late Saturday evening.

The quake is part of a series of tremors that have jolted south of the city of Teheran.

Kong, on the Persian Gulf coast, has a population of 15,000 and is about 930 miles south of Teheran.

Iran is located on several seismic fault lines and is prone to earthquakes, experiencing at least one slight tremor every day on average.—Internet

Aggressive vaccine effort could cut cervical cancer

CHICAGO, 26 Oct — An aggressive strategy of vaccinating older women against cervical cancer could deliver a crippling blow against the disease, cutting rates for that type of cancer in half for women through age 45, US researchers said on Saturday.

Using a mathematical model, they showed that vaccinating women in the United States by ages 12 through 45 against the cancer-causing human papilloma virus, or HPV, could reduce cases of cervical cancer by 85 percent for 12-year-olds and up to 55 percent for 45-year-old women.

It could lower rates by 34 to 67 percent for 25-year-old women, Warner Huh of the University of Alabama told a meeting in Washington of the American Society for Microbiology and the Infectious Diseases Society of America.

The model assumed 100 percent vaccination rates, which would be difficult to achieve in the United States.

Most cases of cervical cancer are caused by the sexually transmitted human papilloma virus.

Strong quake shakes Afghanistan

Australia scientists say bees can count to four

People look at a giant representation of an ‘alebrije’ during a parade in Mexico City, on 25 Oct, 2008. ‘Alegrijes’ are carved wooden statues, typical of Mexico’s Oaxaca state. Behind left is Mexico’s Fine Art Museum.—INTERNET

Russia says Iran sanctions ‘counterproductive’

MOSCOW, 26 Oct — Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Wednesday said unilateral sanctions against Iran would be “counter-productive” in efforts to force Teheran to suspend its nuclear fuel work.

Russia is of the view that the “politics of adopting unilateral and anti-Iranian sanctions imposed by some countries is counter-productive,” the ministry said in a statement.

Lavrov articulated this view when he met with Howard Berman, chairman of the foreign affairs committee in the US House of Representatives, the statement said.

The US and its European allies had pushed for tougher sanctions against Teheran but ran into resistance from Russia — among the five permanent members of the UN Security Council — and China. Teheran insists its nuclear programme is strictly peaceful and solely aimed at generating electricity.

It has a right to enrich uranium to make nuclear fuel as a signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).—INTERNET

A police officer organizes packages of seized cocaine as it is shown to the press in Barranquilla, Colombia, on 25 Oct, 2008. Ten tons of cocaine were seized by police during an anti-drug raid, according to police.—INTERNET

An Indian woman selects her purchases at a shopping mall in Mumbai, on 25 Oct, ahead of the Hindu festival of lights, Diwali.—INTERNET

Threat policeman, militants killed in gunfire

PATTANI, 26 Oct — A Thai policeman and two suspected militants died in a five-hour standoff at a separatist hideout in southern Thailand late on Friday, police said.

The two killed militants refused to surrender to about 100 government security personnel laying siege to their hideout in Pattani, one of three southern provinces facing a four-year separatist insurgency, they said. Government forces surrounded the house after its two heavily armed occupants shot at a police squad attempting to search the place, killing an officer and wounding four.

MNA/Reuters
Scolari savours clash of the invincibles

London, 26 Oct — Luiz Felipe Scolari believes Chelsea can win Sunday’s clash of the invincibles against Liverpool and go on to become his dream team. Scolari’s side have yet to lose in 12 games since the Brazilian took charge, while Liverpool travel to Stamford Bridge undefeated in all competitions this season.

After the anguish of missing out on the Premier League and Champions League to Manchester United last season, Chelsea have started the campaign filled with a renewed sense of purpose by Scolari. Despite the vast majority of the game with 10 men.

Jankovic secures end-of-year top spot

St Petersburg, 26 Oct — Serbia’s Jelena Jankovic, who has yet to win a Grand Slam title, will finish the 2008 season as the world number one, the WTA announced on Saturday.

Currently holding 4,555 points in the rankings, 23-year-old Jankovic has a commanding lead over Dinara Safina (3,782) and Serena Williams (3,716).

Answers to yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle

Barclays Premier League

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Arsenal seek to hammer home Euro form

London, 26 Oct — One of Arsene Wenger’s most dearly held tenets is that a domestic league, and not European competition, is the true litmus test of a team’s talents.

There has always been a whiff of self-interest in that principle, given the Arsenal manager’s failure to lift the Champions League is in painful contrast to his three English Premier League crowns, but do not be surprised to see Wenger revise his belief system as the season wears on.

It might still be October, but already Arsenal appear better placed to thrive on the continent than on their native turf.

The north Londoners have set their sights on the Premier League title after their best start to a Premier League season in 12 years.

After a winless run of three league matches, they find themselves tenth in expectation levels at Eastlands following September’s takeover by the Abu Dhabi United Group, Hughes’s team have been uninspiring in the Premier League.

Hughes’s team have been temper’s takeover by the expectation levels at campaign back on track.

Stoke if they are to get toughen up against Manchester City players Mark Hughes has told his team.

Despite a huge increase in expectation levels at Eastlands following September’s takeover by the Abu Dhabi United Group, Hughes’s team have yet to lose in 12 games since the Brazilian took charge, while Liverpool travel to Stamford Bridge undefeated in all competitions this season.

Safina (3,782) and Serena Williams (3,716).

2008 season as the world number one, the WTA announced on Saturday.

"I’ve played terrific all year,” said Sutherland, who won the 2002 Accenture Match Play Championship for his lone PGA Tour title. “This is my last tournament of the year, so it’d be great to cap it off with a win.” — Internet

Kevin Sutherland drives from the second tee during the third round of the Frys.com Open golf tournament on 25 Oct, 2008, in Scottsdale, Ariz.—Internet

Federer going for three in a row in Basel final

Basel, 26 Oct — Roger Federer bids for his third consecutive title at the Swiss Indoors tournament in Sunday’s final here against David Nalbandian.

In Saturday’s semi-finals, Federer dispatched Spain’s Feliciano Lopez 6-3, 6-2 in 61 minutes while Nalbandian, also a former champion, needed not much longer as he beat Argentine Davis Cup teammate Juan Del Potro 6-4, 6-4. Lopez has been suffering with a split toenail since the US Open but is unable to have it dealt with until after a long season ends for him in late November. — Internet

Answers to yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle

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**Killings increase Westerners’ fears in Afghan capital**

KABUL (AFP), 26 Oct—The gunning down of three Westerners in the Afghan capital in less than a week is a sharp reminder that Kabul is no longer a safe haven in a country gripped by violence, expatriates say.

Saturday’s shooting of a Briton and a South African, along with an Afghan, outside the offices of the international shipping company DHL, appears to have been the result of a dispute unrelated to a growing Taliban insurgency.

Nevertheless, it feeds a sense of insecurity with international residents already concerned by Monday’s killing of a British-Afghan “Jirga,” or mini-jirga, is a follow-up to a grand assembly in Kabul last year in which delegates called for talks with Taliban militants to end bloodshed in both countries.

A jirga is a consultative system the proudly independent Pashtuns have used for more than 1,000 years to settle affairs of the nation or rally behind a cause.

Around 50 political leaders, Pashtun elders and Muslim clerics from both countries will meet on Monday and Tuesday to ponder growing violence by the spread of the nation or rally behind a cause.

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**Pakistan and Afghan elders to meet to ponder violence**

ISLAMABAD, 26 Oct—Pakistan and Afghan political and ethnic Pashtun tribal leaders meet in Islamabad on Monday to try to agree on ways to tackle rising militant violence including the possibility of opening talks with the Taliban.

The meeting, dubbed a Pakistan-Afghan “Jirga,” or mini-jirga, is a follow-up to a grand assembly in Kabul last year in which delegates called for talks with Taliban militants to end bloodshed in both countries.

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**Transaction of TEI below Expectation**

Jakarta, 26 Oct—Trade Expo Indonesia (TEI) 2008 reached a transaction of 77.6 million US dollars, lower than the expected target of 220 million US dollars amid the global monetary crisis, an official said here on Saturday.

“Until 13:00 hours today, the transaction value in TEI 2008 recorded 77.6 million US dollars. Furniture products were still at the highest position with a value of 25 million US dollars or 32.3 per cent,” Bachrul Chairi, head of the Indonesian Agency for Export Development (NAFED) of Indonesian Trade Ministry said before the closing ceremony held on Saturday afternoon.

The annual Trade Expo Indonesia (TEI) at Jakarta fairground, which started on Tuesday (21 October), is the biggest trade expo in the country.

**WEATHER**

Sunday, 26 October, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:00 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thunder showers have been scattered in Kachin and Kayin States, fairly widespread in Rakhine State and Upper Sagain Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy fall in Shan State and isolated heavyfall in Mandalay Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded in the past 24 hours are just south of Tezpur (Yazir) (10.57) inches, Palmuang (3.78) inches, Thayapaw (3.58) inches, Dawei (2.88) inches, Ye (2.46) inches, Satway (2.29) inches, Yangon (2.17) inches and Myeik (2.09) inches.

Maximum temperature on 25-10-2008 was 85 F. Minimum temperature on 26-10-2008 was 69 F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 26-10-2008 was 100%. Total sunshine hours on 25-10-2008 was (Nil) hours. Average rainfall on 26-10-2008 was (1.85) inches at Mingaladon, (1.69) inches at Kaba-Aye and (0.63) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (104.80) inches at Mingaladon, (115.00) inches at Kaba-Aye and (133.70) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Southeast at (14:30) hours MST on 25-10-2008.

**Outlook for subsequent two days:**

**State of the sea:** Squalls with rough seas will be experienced at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40 mph.

**Forecast for 27-10-2008:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Teachers to promote the quality of basic education schools in rural areas in order to narrow the gap of the education standards

Special Refresher Course No. 66 for basic education teachers concludes

YANGON, 26 Oct — The conclusion of the Special Refresher Course No. 66 for basic education teachers was held at Nawarat Hall of Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township here this morning.

On behalf of Chairman of Myanmar Education Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung delivered a speech.

Also present were Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Maung Maung Swe, the deputy ministers, members of Civil Service Selection and Training Board officials of the Ministry of Education, the rector of CICS (Phaunggyi), course instructors and trainee teachers.

In his address, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung said regarding the education extensive reforms are being made. Myanmar is also making endeavours for development of all sectors based on education and is carrying out the tasks for development of education sector in accord with the requirements of the nation.

With the development of the nation, technological requirements and challenges make enormous demands on education, he said.

He said science and arts are to be enhanced through the education sector in accord with knowledge and technological needs. It is necessary for

* For the health of babies
  - Mother’s milk the best
  - If mother’s milk is not sufficient
  - Cow or goat’s milk can be used
  - Always boil the milk
  - The best for health

Storm news

YANGON, 26 Oct — According to the observations at 4 p.m today, the depression over West Central Bay has slightly intensified and centered at about 175 miles South of Kolkata (India). It is starting to cross northeast coast of India and western coast of Bangladesh and will reach onshore within next 12 hours.

Due to this depression, rain are likely to be widespread in northern Rakhine State and Chin State and upper Sagaing Division with isolated heavy falls.

Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely off and along Rakhine coast and offshore areas. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 to 40 mph.

World Hand-Washing Day held

YANGON, 26 Oct — A ceremony to mark World Hand-Washing Day, arranged by Ministry of Health, was held at Mariland rural health centre of Zalun Township of Ayeyawady Division on 15 October.

Officials explained the purpose of the ceremony and demonstrated washing with soap. Next, villagers collectively did the systematic washing.

Alonso’s goal lifts Liverpool on top the table

STAMFORD BRIDGE, 26 Oct — Xabi Alonso’s deflected 10th-minute goal gave Liverpool victory and shattered a Chelsea sequence stretching back to February 2004 on home turf.

It was a deserved triumph for Rafael Benitez’s side achieved without Fernando Torres and the first setback for the reign of Luiz Felipe Scolari at Chelsea.

Chelsea enjoyed long periods of possession, but Liverpool never flinched and could have doubled their victory margin had Alonso’s second-half free-kick not hit an upright.

Ashley Cole missed Chelsea’s best chance after the break, allowing Liverpool to record a victory which is of huge significance in terms of their confidence and self-belief.

If this game was a measure of Liverpool’s ability to finally mount a serious title challenge, then they will have left west London in the knowledge that they now appear to have the ability to finally challenge Chelsea and Manchester United in domestic battle.

Chelsea simply ran out of ideas in the face of a red wall of defensive resistance, with Liverpool’s defence led magnificently by Jamie Carragher impenetrable.

Scolari to recruit more English players

LONDON, 26 Oct — Chelsea manager Luiz Felipe Scolari has set his sights on bringing in more English players into his side as he looks to win trophies with the Blues.

Scolari took charge of the West London club in the summer after his stint as Portugal head coach.

Although the Brazilian is happy with the squad, there could be arrivals in the future as Big Phil admitted. “I am very happy here with the players I have,” he told Sky Sports News. “The players I have at the moment are good, but in the future I will look for more. “I know the English players and I want more English players in my team. I want to win in England.” — Internet