**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

---

**Vice-Senior General Maung Aye receives Vietnamese Military Attachés**

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Oct—Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye received Military Attaché of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Union of Myanmar Sr. Colonel Le Van Thanh who has completed his tour of duty and his successor Sr. Colonel Nguyen Van Vui at Bayintnaung Yeiktha, here, this morning.

Also present at the call were Member of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Slwae Man, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein and Military Affairs Security Chief Lt-Gen Ye Myint.—MNA

---

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye shaking hands with outgoing Military Attaché of Vietnam Sr. Colonel Le Van Thanh and incoming Military Attaché Sr. Colonel Nguyen Van Vui at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye cordially greets incoming Military Attaché of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Union of Myanmar Sr. Colonel Nguyen Van Vui at Bayintnaung Yeiktha in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA
THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR  Thursday, 30 October, 2008

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 30 October, 2008

Maintain roads for development of storm-hit regions

There were damages in some parts of Ayeyawady Division due to natural disaster in May this year. Therefore rehabilitation tasks are being carried out with plenty of guts, goodwill and solidarity of the people. The government provides food, clothing and shelter needs of storm victims and assistance for resuming of their livelihood. Houses have been built in villages in Labutta, Mawlamyine, Pyapon, Kyauklat, Dedaye and Hainggyikyun Townships. Local people in those areas have carried out agriculture and fisheries works and pernormed other business with greater momentum.

Roads were mainly used for rescue, relief and rehabilitation tasks in the storm-hit regions after the post-storm period. Yangon-Pathein Road and Pyapon-Bogale Road were deteriorating due to heavy traffic and rains. Priority is being given to road repair work for the convenience of heavy trucks and passenger buses.

Now the dry season has set in, so potholes along the roads are to be filled with laterite and sand and to be resurfaced through the coordination of departments concerned.

Model villages were established after the government provided health care services, safe drinking water and transport facilities in the region.

Better transport and communication is the main factor for regional development. Therefore it is necessary to properly maintain the major roads in the regions in all seasons. Local people in cooperation with officials concerned are to take part in the rehabilitation tasks of the storm-hit regions and improvement of their livelihood.

Industry-2 Ministry focuses on innovating quality products

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Oct—Chairman of Myanmar Industrial Development Work Committee In-Charge of Hlinethaya Industrial Zone Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, on 27 October, met with industrialists in Hlinethaya industrial zone in Hlinethaya township.

In meeting with industrialists, the minister gave a speech, saying that the Government is placing emphasis on development of industrial sector in its efforts for building an industrialized nation. Private entrepreneurs, industrialists and government departments are to strive for realizing the goal through technology transfer and cooperative works. The minister also urged them to innovate quality products and to nurture highly skilled-workers for increased production capacity.

He also stressed the need of establishing import substitute industries while focusing on export-oriented production, to become more customer-oriented through continued improvement. The minister then held discussions with industrialists of Hlinethaya industrial zone and coordinated essentials. The minister later visited FAME pharmaceuticals factory, Excellence steel forging factory, and Thaung Win rice mill.

Tasks for proper drainage supervised

YANGON, 29 Oct—Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thein Lin went on an inspection tour of Thakayta township this morning and inspected preventive measure against dengue hemorrhagic fever.

Similarly, preventive measures against dengue hemorrhagic fever were collectively taken in Dawbon, Ahlon, South Okkalapa and Dagon Myothit (South) townships. In the compound of police housing in Kamayut township, the mayor and party inspected progress in sinking a well to supply safe water to the dwellers.

Next, the mayor and party looked into measures for proper flow of drainage and smooth transport with the use of manpower and heavy machinery.

Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science holds paper reading session

YANGON, 29 Oct—Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science of the Ministry of Education conducted the 8th paper reading session at Yangon Institute of Economics in Kamayut Township today.

First, President of the academy U Than Oo made a speech. Next, Vice-Presidents of the academy Dr Thein Myint and U Sein Min read out the list of winners. President U Than Oo and officials presented prizes to the winners.—MNA

President U Than Oo gives speech at 8th paper reading session. EDUCATION

19th eye surgeons’ conference on 17 November

YANGON, 29 Oct—The 19th eye surgeons’ conference, organized by Myanmar Medical Association, will be held at the MMA on Theinbyu Road here starting from 17 November. All eye surgeons and doctors who wish to attend the conference may register at Yangon Eye Hospital on Natmauk road starting from 14 November.

MNA
Pakistan to US: Stop missile strikes near border

ISLAMABAD, 29 Oct—Pakistan’s government summoned the US ambassador on Wednesday to urge an immediate halt to missile strikes on suspected militant hide-outs near the Afghan border.

Having called in US Ambassador Anne Patterson on Wednesday, “a strong protest was lodged on the continued missile attacks by US drones inside Pakistani territory,” a Foreign Ministry statement said.

The attacks have led to the loss of “precious lives and property” and “undermine public support for the government’s counterterrorism policies,” the statement said.

“It was emphasized that such attacks were a violation of Pakistan’s sovereignty and should be stopped immediately,” it said.

Lawmakers on Monday pass a resolution condemning the attacks and calling on the government to take “more effective measures” to stop them.

The Foreign Ministry said it gave a copy of the resolution to Patterson on Wednesday.

Suicide bombs kill 22 in northern Somalia, UN hit

MOGADISHU, 29 Oct—Suicide bombers struck a U.N. compound, the Ethiopian consulate and three other targets in northern Somalia on Wednesday, killing at least 22 people in attacks that coincided with international talks in neighboring Kenya about Somalia’s political crisis.

Three of the five bombings hit the breakaway republic of Somaliland, one of them exploding at the palace of the regional president.

Bombers also simultaneously attacked two intelligence facilities in the semi-autonomous northern region of Puntland.

All the attacks were in the morning.

No one claimed responsibility for the attacks.

But the UN and Ethiopia have supported Somalia’s weak central government in its battle with Islamic rebels and the rebels have launched such strikes in the past to coincide with UN-led efforts to end the turmoil in the Horn of Africa nation.

The UN compound in Somaliland was hit by a suicide car bomb.

“There are known casualties as well as deaths, but the numbers are currently being verified,” said Dawn Elizabeth Blalock, a spokeswoman for the UN’s Somalia program in Nairobi, Kenya.

Experts: homeless people to grow significantly in coming months in US

LOS ANGELES, 29 Oct—Although Los Angeles boasts of more than 250,000 millionaires, as the economic downturn worsened, about 73,000 people are homeless on any given night in the city, and about 40 percent of them are women and children, according to the United Way of Greater Los Angeles.

The Los Angeles Unified School District, officials said, has more than 13,500 homeless children, a 35 percent increase over last year. In Greater Los Angeles, and across the nation, experts expect the number of homeless people to grow significantly in coming months as the unemployment rate rises and home foreclosures rocket.

About 760,000 people across the country have lost their jobs since January 1st. In Greater Los Angeles, the number of homeless families receiving welfare benefits from the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) increased 20 percent to almost 7,100 from June to August, according to the paper.

Similarly, the number of indigent adults, many of whom are homeless, receiving 221 dollars monthly general relief checks, has risen from about 61,500 at the beginning of the year to just over 70,000 in August, the paper said. As the unemployment rate in Los Angeles rose to 8.1 percent in August, the number of people receiving food stamps jumped from about 640,000 to more than 673,000, said the paper.

Moreover, the agencies faced with the task of providing for the homeless are watching their own tax revenues and donations drop. The state recently cut about 50 million dollars in funding for the DPSS, forcing the agency to reduce staff and eliminate contracts, the paper said. Last year, 37 percent of Greater Los Angeles residents were living in households with annual incomes of about 32,000 dollars — or up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level for a parent with two children. In the City of Los Angeles, the percentage was 43 percent, one of the highest in the nation, according to the paper.

Four policemen, three civilians killed in Iraq violence

BAGHDAD, 29 Oct—Four police officers were killed on Tuesday in a drive-by shooting in the turbulent northern city of Mosul and three civilians were killed in a separate Baghdad bombing, police said.

A police officer in Mosul said gunmen opened fire on eight off-duty policemen who were traveling in two civilian cars to work, killing four and wounding the rest.

The attack took place in al-Amil, a Sunni neighborhood in the western side of the city, he said.

The attack underlines the continuing violence in Mosul at a time when most of the rest of Iraq has seen a dramatic drop in violence.

Meanwhile in Baghdad, three people were killed when a car bomb went off at an outdoor market in al-Jihad, a neighborhood in western Baghdad, a police officer and a hospital doctor said. Thirteen others were wounded, they said.
China to launch a telecom satellite for Venezuela

BEIJING, 29 Oct — China will send a Venezuelan telecommunications satellite into orbit on the early morning of 30 October, according to a spokesman with the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre.

It will be the first time that China has made a commercial space launch for a Latin American country, said the official. The rocket carrier for the Venezuela 1 Telecom Satellite will be a Long March 3II.

The official did not reveal any details about the commercial launch, such as the prices of the contract and technical data and information about the satellite.

According to the website of the Great Wall Industry Corporation, China’s sole contractor for such space business, the country began its commercial space launch business on 5 August, 1987, when a Long 2 March C rocket carrier launched a micro-gravity test instrument for the French company Martra Miconi. —Xinhua

Iran’s Army Commander says enemy’s aircraft carriers under its gaze

TEHERAN, 29 Oct — Iran’s Deputy Army Commander Brigadier General Abdolahim Moussavi said on Tuesday that the aircraft carriers of the enemy, “like the elements of the computer games,” are under the gaze of Iran’s Armed Forces, the semi-official Fars news agency reported.

The country’s Armed Forces on Monday inaugurated a new naval base in the strategic port of Jask, east of the Strait of Hormuz in southern Iran.

Moussavi pointed out that the new naval base in Jask would function as a “protective barrier in the eastern parts of the Strait of Hormuz and the Sea of Oman.”

According to the Iranian English-language satellite channel Press TV, Moussavi also added that, “In the past, our military had to brace itself for countering regional enemies, today, however, we are faced with extra-regional threats.” —Xinhua

Four killed in Colombian air crash

BOGOTA, 29 Oct — Four people were killed and three others injured Tuesday in an air crash in Colombia’s western Choco province, local media reported. The small passenger plane crashed into a nearby mountain after taking off from an airport in Choco province, witnesses said.

Four of the seven passengers on board were killed instantly. The three injured have been sent to a local hospital. —Xinhua

Cholera outbreak worsening in Guinea-Bissau, killing 211

Dakar, 29 Oct — A total of 211 people have been killed in Guinea-Bissau which is hard hit by a major outbreak of the disease since May, according to a report released on Tuesday by the country’s cholera-treatment centers, China’s Xinhua news agency reported.

So far, 12,528 cholera cases have been reported in the outbreak, the worst since 2005.

The treatment center in the capital city of Dakar admits more than 100 cholera patients daily, and every week around 1,000 people across the country are tested positive of the disease.

Minister of Social Communication Fernando Mendonca confirmed the data in a phone interview with Xinhua on Tuesday, saying that due to the shortage of funds and medical personnel, the health departments now are unable to contain the growingly serious outbreak of the disease which hits the country at every rainy season.

Moreover, many of the local people take the bodies of their families killed by the disease home from hospitals for burial without any disinfection treatment, which has also contributed to the spread of the disease. —Xinhua

Indonesia adopts measures to boost rupiah

JAKARTA, 29 Oct — Indonesia has obligated state-owned firms to place their US dollars in the country and speed up the implementation of project funded by donors. Coordinating Minister for Economy Sri Mulyani Indrawati told a press briefing on Tuesday evening after a sudden cabinet meeting.

The measure was aimed at boosting rupiah value which has been declining against the US dollars due to the impact of global financial turmoil.

On Tuesday, rupiah slid nearly 9 percent to 11,800, the lowest in more than seven years. “We have set up a clearing house from the state-owned enterprises in a bid to place all amount of their foreign currency (US dollars) in domestic banks,” Mulyani said at the State Palace.

“We will speed up implementation of all projects which have already got commitment on their financing, including those from bilateral or multilateral forum. This aims at raising US dollars supply to the country,” she said.

Indonesia, with a population of over 230 million, planned to build a massive infrastructure to support its economic targets. The biggest Southeast Asia economy puts economic target at 6 percent next year. —Xinhua

China, Russia issue joint communique on co-op

MOSCOW, 29 Oct — China and Russia issued a joint communique here on Tuesday, pledging further efforts to strengthen strategic coordination and deepen cooperation in various fields.

The communique was signed by visiting Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin at the 13th regular prime ministers’ talks between the two countries. During his visit, Wen also held separate talks with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Speaker of the Russian Federation Council Sergei Mironov, and attended the third China-Russia Economic and Trade Summit Forum. During his meeting with Medvedev, Wen and the Russian president had an in-depth exchange of views on the two countries’ strategic coordination and cooperation, as well as major regional and international issues. —Xinhua

All items from Xinhua News Agency

Photo taken on 28 Oct, 2008 shows an unique show stand on an international fire protection exposition in Beijing, China.—Xinhua
LA Times to cut 10 percent of news staff

NEW YORK, 29 Oct—The Los Angeles Times plans to cut 75 jobs, or 10 percent of its news staff, a response to the world financial crisis that is exacerbating already painful advertising declines at US newspapers.

The cuts are comparable in scale to some that the Los Angeles Times made on the business side of its operations last week, Editor Russ Stanton told employees in an e-mail message that The Times posted on its website on Monday. “The growing economic downturn is forcing us to undergo another round of job reductions and cost cuts,” Stanton wrote. “I appreciate your patience, understanding and cooperation during this difficult period.” It is the second round of news staff layoffs since a previous round was announced in July. The paper has offered buyouts and has cut back staff levels in its news operations from a high of some 1,200 a bit less than a decade ago.

A Times spokeswoman declined to comment on the news. The Times is the largest daily paper owned by Chicago-based Tribune Co., which also publishes The Sun in Baltimore, the Hartford Courant and the Orlando Sentinel. It also is one of the largest US papers, with circulation of about 780,000 — in the same league as The Washington Post and closer to The New York Times and News Corp’s Wall Street Journal than many other big-city dailies.

China says developed nations should take lead in greenhouse gas emission cuts

BEIJING, 29 Oct—The developed countries should take the lead in reducing greenhouse gas emissions that are blamed for global warming and climate change, China said in a white paper issued on Wednesday.

In the white paper titled “China’s Policies and Actions for Addressing Climate Change”, China stated that the developed nations also should provide financial support and transfer technologies to help the developing countries fight against global warming. The developing countries, while developing their economies and fighting poverty, should actively adopt measures to adapt to climate change, reduce their emissions to the lowest degree and fulfill their duties in addressing climate change, according to the white paper.—INTERNET

Poland removes all its military from Iraq

Goleniow, 29 Oct—Poland ended today its five-and-half-year military mission in Iraq by withdrawing its last troops from the country.

A plane, carrying around 100 soldiers, landed in the Polish town of Goleniow, the Polish TVN 24 broadcasting network reported. On board was also the commander of the military unit, General Andrzej Malinowski. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk had pledged a swift troop withdrawal from Iraq during his election campaign in fall 2007.

Poland had been in charge of four occupation zones in Iraq following the fall of the Saddam Hussein regime. At the start of the Iraq military operation, around 2,500 Polish soldiers were deployed in Iraq, however that number dwindled recently to 900.—INTERNET

At least 160 killed in Pakistan quake

ISLAMABAD, 29 Oct—Rescuers dug through the rubble left by a 6.4-magnitude earthquake that struck a remote area of southwest Pakistan on Wednesday, killing at least 160 people and leaving thousands homeless on the brink of winter, a humanitarian group spokesman said.

“We can confirm that there are 160 reported dead, 500 injured and around 10,000 population displaced in and around the area of Ziarat,” said Asar U1 Haq, senior disaster manager of the International Federation for the Red Crescent delegation in Pakistan.

The death toll was expected to rise as rescue workers dug through the rubble of mud homes in a remote part of Baluchistan province, said the province’s Deputy Director of Public Safety Mohammad Ali.

The quake struck before daybreak, about 60 kilometers (35 miles) north-northeast of the province’s capital, Quetta.

Another quake measuring magnitude 6.2 struck southwest Pakistan on Wednesday, hours after the initial jolt, according to the US Geological Survey.—INTERNET
Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts …

(from page 16)

It is our bounden duty to preserve the Myanmar cultural structure relayed by our forefathers through successive eras and to strive for renewing them in accordance with the passage of time.

The Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held every year in response to the duty given by the history are achieving successes year after year. Especially the Competitions are found to be rekindling and keeping alive the Myanmar traditional views and outlooks, ethics and wisdom in the Myanmar society.

The singing and music performances of the competitors have exhibited the intrinsic value of Myanmar music with superb melody and expertise. The song composing competitions reflect the rich Myanmar music with superb melody and expertise. The marionette competitions show the theatrical expertise and excellent skills progressively year after year. The marionettes look like animate beings.

The marionette competitions with the theme of “Lord Buddha leaving for hermitage” could portray with full Dhamma essence. The leaving for recluses is one of the four events of Lord Buddha namely—the birth, the leaving for hermitage, the delivering Abhidhama sermons and the joining Nirvina.

Especially the drama competitions with title “Vigour of youth rises up the sky” demonstrate the strength of youths intermingled with constructive attitude of the youths, firm concept on Our Three Main National Causes, the goodwill towards the nation, etc. Hence, I would like to urge one and all to serve the interest of the people with artistic strength by utilizing the might of drama plays at a time when the new nation is being built.

What I would like to stress at this prize distribution ceremony of Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions is that some nations today are losing their own traditional cultures and national characteristics. Thus those nations are striving to preserve and enhance them. At this juncture, Myanmar has been preserving well and gracefully promoting the grandeur of Myanmar traditional cultural heritage. It is a fact for us to take pride heartily. I would like to urge all to exert continued efforts for preserving and enhancing the traditional cultural heritage in response to penetrating alien cultures.

In conclusion, although the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions have come to a conclusion for this year, I would like to urge all to make continued and dedicated efforts for implementing the objectives of the Competitions namely, “Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character”, “Uplift of morale and morality of the entire nation”, “Keeping genuine patriotism based on national solidarity alive and dynamic,” and “Turning out younger generation who will continue to safeguard the national culture and character.”

MNA

Secretary-1 awards winners in 16th Myanmar…

(from page 16)

Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Maj-Gen Tha Aye and Maj-Gen Khin Zaw of the Ministry of Defence, Adjutant-General Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, Chairman of the Leading Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lin, ministers, the chief justice, the attorney-general, members of the Leading Committee, deputy ministers, senior military officers, the director-general of SPDC Office, heads of department, secretaries of the Leading Committee and the Work Committee, members of Work Committees, officials of subcommittees, judges (central), judges of states and divisions, managers of the teams, contestants, national race observers, special guests, and staff members of the ministries in Nay Pyi Taw.

U Hla Win, Daw Lein Maung Pan and Daw Kay Khang Swe of Myanma Radio and Television acted as MC. The Secretary-1 delivered a speech.

(The speech of the Secretary-1 is reported separately.)

(See page 7)
Secretary-1 awards winners in 16th Myanmar...

(from page 6)

The Secretary-1 presented first, second and third prizes for amateur level (first class) marionette (Maha Buddhavamsa Renunciation) contest to Mann Theinga troupe of Mandalay Division, Taw win troupe of Yangon Division, and Zeya Thiri troupe of Sagaing Division; prize for marionette master in marionette (Maha Buddhavamsa Renunciation) contest to Mann Theinga troupe of Mandalay Division, prize for orchestra to Mann Theinga troupe of Mandalay Division, prize for script to U Nan Myint Swe of Mandalay Division (Mann Theinga troupe); first, second, third and consolation prizes for amateur level (first class) Lunge Arman Moeyan Si Tho play contest to Ayeyawady Division, Yangon Division, Mandalay Division and Kachin State; best actor prize for Lunge Arman Moeyan Si Tho play to the audience.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Htay Oo presented first, second and third prizes in amateur level (first class) men's classical song contest to U Kyaw Kyaw Han of Ayeyawady Division, U Min Han of Bago Division and U Tin Oo Hlaing of Yangon Division; first, second and third prizes in amateur level (second class) men's classical song contest to U Sai Nyo Win (TTC) of Ayeyawady Division, Maung Zaw Naing Kyi of Yangon Division, and Pyi Myanmar Hein Yaza of Yangon Division, best actor prize to Daw Swe Swe Aung of Mandalay Division, best supporting actor prize to Daw Swe Swe Aung of Mandalay Division; first, second and third prizes in men's classical song contest to Daw Kyaw Kyaw Han of Ayeyawady Division, Daw Ohnmar of Bago Division and Daw Thu Zar Aung of Ayeyawady Division; first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 10-15) boys' classical song contest to Maung Aung Khin Min of Yangon Division, Maung Wunna of Mon State and Maung Wunna Tun of Yangon Division; and first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 5-10) boys' classical song contest to Daw Kyaw Kyaw Han of Ayeyawady Division, Maung Myint presented first, second and third prizes for amateur level women's classical song contest to Daw Kyaw Kyaw Han of Ayeyawady Division, Daw Htein Lin Aung of Yangon Division, Maung Myo Myat Hein of Rakhine State and Maung Ye Thara Lwin of Mandalay Division.

Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Maung presented first, second and third prizes for amateur level women's classical song contest to Daw Kyaw Kyaw Han of Ayeyawady Division, Dawan Myint Oo and Daw Thin Thin Khaing Hnin of Yangon Division, Daw Htet Maw of Bago Division, and Daw Thu Zar Aung of Ayeyawady Division; first, second and third prizes for basic education level women's classical song contest to Daw Kyaw Kyaw Han of Ayeyawady Division, Daw Htein Lin Aung of Yangon Division, Maung Myint presented first, second and third prizes for higher education level women's classical song contest to Daw Kyaw Kyaw Han of Ayeyawady Division, Daw Htein Lin Aung of Yangon Division, Maung Wunna of Mon State and Maung Myint Oo presents supporting orchestra prize to U Hla Win of Mandalay Division.—MNA

Secrethary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo presents supporting orchestra prize to U Hla Win of Mandalay Division.—MNA

Min of Shan State, U Hein Lin Aung of Yangon Division, and U Than Myat Soe of Sagaing Division; first, second and third prizes for higher education level men's classical song contest to Maung Htan Hlyan Kar of Sagaing Division, Maung Thida Kyaw of Yangon Division and Maung Di Ye Lin of Taninthayi Division; first, second and third prizes for basic education level men's classical song contest to Maung Zin Maung of Yangon Division, Maung Hla Myo Zaw of Mandalay Division, and Maung Zaw Naing Moe of Yangon Division; first, second and third prizes for basic education level (second class) women's classical song contest to Daw Kyaw Kyaw Han of Ayeyawady Division, Daw Htein Lin Aung of Yangon Division, Maung Myint presented first, second and third prizes for amateur level women's classical song contest to Daw Kyaw Kyaw Han of Ayeyawady Division, Daw Htein Lin Aung of Yangon Division, Maung Wunna of Mon State and Maung Myint Oo presents supporting orchestra prize to U Hla Win of Mandalay Division.—MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Htay Oo gives first prize to Maung Wai Lamin Aung in basic education level (aged 5-10) boy's classical song contest.—MNA

(vide page 6)

Vice-Admiral Soe Thein gives away first prize to Daw Swe Swe Aung of Mandalay Division in amateur level (first class) women's old/ modern song contest.—MNA
Secretary-1 awards winners in 16th Myanmar...

Mr. Moh Moh Thu Zaw of Yangon Division, Mr. Thiri Su Wai of Yangon Division, and Mr. Myat Pwint Phyo of Mandalay Division; first, second, and third prizes for basic education level (aged 15-20) girls' classical song contest to Ma Yin Mon of Yangon Division, Mr. Hnin Hnin Aung of Sagaing Division and Ma Kyi Kyi Wai of Kachin State; first, second and third prizes for basic education level (aged 10-15) girls', classical song contest to Ma Su Yin Tun of Yangon Division, Mr. Thet Hla Tun of Yangon Division, and Ma May Maung of Kayin State; and first, second and third prizes for basic education level (girls') (aged 15-20). 

Mr. Aye Kyaw of Rakhine State; first, second and third prizes for higher education level men's classical/modern song contest to Maung Zin Maung Maung (a) Aye Kyaw of Rakhine State, and Maung Tun Pyae Aung of Yangon Division, Maung Zin Maung Maung Maung (a) Aye Kyaw of Rakhine State, and Maung No No La Pyai of Yangon Division, Maung Thaw Zin Tun of Yangon Division and Maung Kyaw Myo Thant of Yangon Division in boys' dancing contest (aged 15-20) at basic education level; Maung Phyo Tha Kyaw (a) Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division, Maung Thaw Zin Tun of Yangon Division and Maung Kyaw Myo Thant of Yangon Division in boys' dancing contest (aged 15-20) at basic education level; Maung Aye Chan Min of Kayin State, Maung Thein Zaw Oo of Sagaing Division and Maung Lin Nyi Nyi Khant of Mon State in boys' dancing contest (aged 5-10) at basic education level.

Mr. Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division, Mr. Ma Kyaw Myo Thant of Yangon Division, and Maung Aye Maung Maung of Yangon Division presented first, second and third prizes to Maung Than Tun of Mandalay Division, and Maung Than Tun of Mandalay Division in men's dancing contest at amateur level (first class); Maung Chan Nyi Chan of Mon State, Maung Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division, U Tin Win of Support Mandalay Division and Maung Hnin Hnin of Mandalay Division in women's dancing contest at amateur level (first class); a troupe representing Yangon Division led by Maung Kyaw Myo Thant of Yangon Division by U Tin Win Aung and the troupe representing Yangon Division led by Maung Than Tun Aung in orchestra contest for supporting men's dancing at the amateur level (first class); Maung Chan Nyi Chan of Mon State, Maung Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division and Maung Naing Lin Oo of Mandalay Division in men's dancing contest at the higher education level; Maung Saw Thu Wai Tun of Mandalay Division, Maung No Lo La Pyai of Yangon Division and Maung Aye Maung Maung of Yangon Division in boys' dancing contest (aged 15-20) at basic education level.

Mr. Thet Tun of Mandalay Division, Ma Phyu Phyu Aung of Mandalay Division, and Maung Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division in girls' dance contest at basic education level (first class); Maung Hnin Hnin of Mandalay Division, and Maung Hnin Hnin of Mandalay Division in girls' dance contest at basic education level (second class); Maung Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division, Maung Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division and Maung Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division in women's dance contest at amateur level (second class); Maung Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division, and Maung Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division in women's dance contest at amateur level (second class); Maung Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division, and Maung Phyo Phyo of Mandalay Division in women's dance contest at amateur level (second class).
Secretary-I awards winners in 16th Myanmar...

(from page 8)

Sagaing Division and Ma Shwezim Myint of Yangon Division in girls’ dance contest at basic education level (aged 5-10), Ma Shumawa (a) Ma Shun Leh Yupa Mon of Yangon Division and Ma Thiri May of Mandalay Division in girls’ dance contest at basic education level (aged 10-15); Ma Phu Htet Win Aung of Mandalay Division, Ma Ei Kay Khang Myo of Mandalay Division and Ma Ei Thet Paing of Sagaing Division in girls’ dance contest at basic education level (aged 5-10).

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein presented first and third prizes to U Than Sein of Sagaing, U Nan Myint Swe of Mandalay and U Min Nyunt of Bago Division in Kwetseik contest at amateur level (first class) respectively. The minister presented outstanding awards to Shwekyisan troupe of Sagaing Division in Kwetseik sanng contest, Swezon Myat Moe Min (U Mya Aye) in script contest at amateur level (first class); The minister presented first and second prizes to Maung Ye Nyi Nyi of Yangon Division, Maung Zeya Aung of Yangon Division and Maung Kyaw Thet Oo in men’s marionette contest at amateur level (second class); Ma Hnin Nge Nge Aung of Yangon Division, Ma Thiri Yadana Soe Han of Yangon Division and Ma Su Su U Htet of Magway Division in women’s marionette contest at amateur level (second class).

Gold medalist Ma Hnin Su Hlaing of Yangon Division in women dance contest at amateur level (second class) entertained the audience.—MNA

Eastern Command reaches final sinking Yangon Command 6-4

YANGON, 29 Oct—The second semi-final of the 24th Defence Services Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) U-21 Football Tournament was held in Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna), here, this evening.

Yangon Command and Eastern Command were held to a 3-3 draw in the full time of 90 minutes and that continued to the extra periods but the result remained unchanged.

Eastern Command deserved to win over Yangon Command 6-4 on penalty shootouts.

Commandant’s Office of the Ministry of Defence meet Yangon Command for the third place on 31st October while Northern Command play against Eastern Command for the champion on 1st November at Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna).—MNA

Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung gives away first prize to Ma Shumawa (a) Ma Shun Leh Yupa Mon of Yangon Division in women dance contest at basic education level (aged 10-15) girls’ dancing contest. —MNA

Teaching aid publications for school children in border areas

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Oct—organized by the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs, the 11th ceremony to donate teaching aid publications to the schools in border areas by private-owned publishing houses was held at the assembly hall of the ministry here this morning with an address by Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe.

On behalf of wellwishers, U Than Maung (Pandaing) explained the purpose of donation.

Next, the deputy minister and the director-general accepted 11,860 books worth K 8,033,150 donated by 11 wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them.

Arrangements are being made to distribute the teaching aid publications to National Races Youth Development Training Schools, Youth Centers and basic education schools in border areas. MNA

MWJA holds meeting

YANGON, 29 Oct—Central Executive Committee of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association held meeting (10/2008) at the meeting hall of Sarpay Beikman building here today. Chairman of MWJA U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) gave an opening speech.

Secretary Dr Tin Tun Oo (Dr Tin Tun Oo) presented implementation of resolutions laid down by meeting (9/2008).

 Afterwards, group leaders of work committees reported on work being carried out by each committee and Chairperson U Hla Myaing (Ko Hsaung) delivered a closing speech.—MNA

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents first prize to U Sai Nyo Min of Shan State in amateur level (first class) men’s old/modern song contest.—MNA

Myanmar Sepak Takraw team arrives back

YANGON, 29 Oct—The Myanmar Sepak Takraw team led by Vice-President of Myanmar Sepak Takraw Federation U Nyan Win arrived back here by air this afternoon after winning one silver medal in the team event and one more silver medal in the group event in the First Asian Beach Sepak Takraw Tournament held in Bali of Indonesia from 18 to 26 October.

They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by officials. —MNA

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein presents best script award to Swezon Myat Moe Min (U Mya Aye) of Ayeyawady Division in amateur level (first class) of 16th Myanmar…
Myanmar Rice Research Institute (Hmawby) marks centenary

YANGON, 29 Oct — Myanmar Rice Research Institute (Hmawby) under Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation marked its centenary at the institute in Hmawby in Yangon North District today.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence attended the ceremony and unveiled the stone plaque to mark the centenary.

First Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, Managing Director of Myanmar Agriculture Service U Ohn Than and Secretary of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council U Hla Soe formally opened the ceremony.

Afterwards, Lt-Gen Myint Swe unveiled the stone plaque and sprinkled scented water on it.

After the opening ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party visited booths displaying several strains of paddy, process of rice research, natural fertilizer, pesticides, five new strains of paddy planted in Yangon Division, history of Myanmar Rice Research Department, documentary photos and posters.

The second session of the celebration was held at the hall of the department and Lt-Gen Myint Swe and Deputy Minister U Ohn Myint delivered addresses.

The ceremony ended with brief explanation about the history of the department by General Manager of Myanmar Agriculture Service U San Nyunt.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and party visited the department’s pilot plantation of rice and harvesting using agricultural machinery.

Myanmar pours goal rains to opponent

YANGON, 29 Oct — The AFF U-19 Women’s Championship was held in Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia yesterday.

Myanmar Women’s Team trounced the Philippines Women’s Team 8-0 in the group round match. Myanmar will face Vietnam tomorrow.

News and Periodicals Enterprise opens English Proficiency Course

YANGON, 29 Oct — An English Proficiency Course No 1/2008 was opened at the New Light of Myanmar Daily on Strand Road in Botataung Township today.

The News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information organized the course.

On behalf of the Minister for Information, Managing Director of NPE U Soe Win delivered an opening speech.

Also present on the occasion were senior journalists, the Chief Editors and Deputy Chief Editors of the dailies under the ministry, officials concerned, the principal of the training, course instructors and trainees.

A total of 21 trainees of the departments and enterprises of the ministry are attending the course which will last till 16 January 2009.
Communal Kathina robe offering ceremony held at Alanpya Pagoda monastery

YANGON, 29 Oct — Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay attended the communal Kathina robe offering ceremony of families of the servicemen at Alanpya Pagoda monastery in Dagon Township here on 26 October.

Firstly, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife and the congregation received the Five Precepts from Chairman of Dagon Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Bhaddanta Revata of Eindawya Kaba Aye monastery.

Next, members of the Sangha led by the Sayadaw recited the parittas. Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay presented Kathina robes and provisions to Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Alanpya Pagoda monastery Bhaddanta Sirinda and offered robes to the Sayadaw of Eindawya Kaba Aye monastery.

Minister receives Secretary-General of ASEAN Japan Center

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Oct —Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing met with a delegation led by Secretary-General Mr Nobutoshi Akao of ASEAN Japan Center at the meeting hall of the Ministry here today.

They discussed matters on tourism industry in Myanmar and development of tourism sector between Myanmar and Japan. — MNA

Minister inspects filling stations in Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Oct —Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Lun Thi inspected two natural gas filling stations in Mandalay on 26 and 27 October.

First, the minister visited the Compress Natural Gas (CNG) filling station in Paleik Mandalay Division. During the visit, he inspected filling CNG to cars and urged officials concerned to take fire prevention measures at the station. The two stations fill CNG to about 700 cars per day.

The minister gave a green light to officials concerned to facilitate the CNG Daughter Station in Mandalay with modern equipment. — MNA

Schoolchildren mingle with dolphins after a show at the Dolphinarium in Dubai Creek Park, on 28 October, 2008. — INTERNET

Commander, Minister inspect construction of Namhsan-Kengtung railroad

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Oct —Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Ya Pyae together with Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min and Deputy Minister U Pe Than on 26 October inspected earth work on Namhsan-Kengtung railroad.

The commander and the minister oversaw chosen site for construction of rail bridge on Namtaing creek near Thanlwin River from Takaw bridge.

At the briefing hall of Public Works near Tongtah village, the commanders and the minister heard reports on condition of axis road for construction of Namhsan-Kengtung railroad by the senior engineer of the Public Works and they gave necessary instructions.

The deputy minister made a supplementary report.

Next, they inspected chosen site for construction of Kengtung Railway Station near Kengtung University. — MNA

F & R Minister inspects development tasks in Kyaukpadaung

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Oct —Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and officials inspected development of Sipaukkan Village in Kyaukpadaung Township on 27 October.

At the village, the officials reported to the minister on thriving oil crop plantations and the future plan. The minister later inspected repairing of the tube well at Basic Education Middle School.

Next, the minister and officials presented exercise books to Sipaukkan BEMS and Hnitkakha BEPS. The minister also made cash donation for renovation of Hitawshin Pagoda and offered Kathina robes and provisions to Sayadaws.

At the office of Kyaukpadaung Township Peace and Development Council, the minister met with members of the Township PDC, departmental heads and townsenders and social organization members.

In Kyaukpadaung, the minister attended a coordination meeting on building of Myo-U Pagoda. After the meeting, the minister looked into storage of water in Ketymauktaung Dam and inspected cultivation of paddy at Makyikine and Kine villages.

Educative talks organized

YANGON, 29 Oct — An educative talk, organized by Rehabilitation and Reintegration working group of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Committee, was held at Myanmar Women’s Development Association (Wingaba) on 26 October.

It was attended by Leader of Rehabilitation and Reintegration working group Daw Tin Tin Nwe, Deputy Leader Daw Khin Myo Myint, Leader of sub-working groups Daw Khin Myo Soe and Daw Thwe Thwe Win and members, administrators, principals, teachers and trainees of Women Development Centre, School for the Girl, Salvation Army and Myanmar Women’s Development Association (Wingaba) totaling 150.

Firstly, Daw Tin Tin Nwe made an opening address.

Next, Dr Aye Myat Lwin and Daw Khin Mya Win gave educative talks. — MNA
EU mulls smoking ban in all work places

BRUSSELS, 29 Oct.—The European Commission is preparing a public consultation on a smoking ban in all work places, including bars and restaurants, said a commission spokesperson on Monday.

European Union (EU) Social Affairs Commissioner Vladimir Spidal said he would like to see a smoking ban in all work places, for both health and safety reasons, said commissioner spokesman Chantal Hughes. But she said the discussion is at very early stage and no legislative proposal is expected until the next commission, which takes office next autumn. “At this very early stage of discussion, we are planning to consult social partners on this issue, social partners being employers and trade unions,” she told a daily briefing. “It is important for us, and for the commissioner in particular, to start the debate and get the ball rolling,” she said. The scope of the proposal is yet to be determined. But one of the areas the commissioner wishes to see covered is restaurants, bars and pubs — enclosed spaces where workers are exposed to passive smoking on daily basis, she said.—MNA/Xinhua

Floods kill six in India’s northeast, thousands homeless

GUWAHATI, 29 Oct.—Floods and landslides caused by three days of incessant rain killed six people and left thousands homeless in India’s remote northeast, one of the country’s most flood-prone regions, officials said on Wednesday.

A sudden wave of flood waters swamped hundreds of villages in the region, destroying houses, farmland and roads, forcing thousands of people to take shelter on high ground, in government buildings and schools.

Three people, including one child, were buried under mudslides and three others were washed away by fast flowing waters in two northeastern mountainous states of Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh, police said.

In the oil-and-tea-rich state of Assam, around 70,000 people have been affected by flash floods, as authorities called rescue workers to evacuate stranded people.

Officials said heavy rains and later the release of excess water from dams by power generating companies in Arunachal Pradesh and neighboring Bhutan caused flooding in the region.

EU mulls smoking ban in all work places

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KAIDO VOY NO (808N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KAIDO VOY NO (808 N) are hereby notified that the vessel has arrived on 30.10.08 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T 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 up 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 MYANMA Port Authority agent for: MS P.D.Z lines

Phone No: 256908/3783165/76797

Israeli troops kill Palestinian in West Bank

NA'BUL, 29 Oct.—Palestinians say Israeli troops have killed a 70-year-old farmer in a nighttime raid in the West Bank.

The Israeli military says the man was armed with a shotgun and opened fire at the soldiers before he was killed. Taher Abahreh says his father was guarding his livestock outside the town of Yamoun early Wednesday when he was shot. He says troops were unsuccessfully trying to treat Muhammad Abahreh when he arrived about an hour after neighbors heard gunfire.

Palestinian security officials confirmed Abahreh’s account.

Moderate Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas governs the West Bank. But the territory remains under overall Israeli control, and Israeli forces carry out nightly patrols and raids targeting militants.—Internet

Mexico, US, Canada to protect endangered porpoise

MEXICO CITY, 29 Oct.—Officials from Mexico, the United States and Canada are teaming up in a plan presented on Tuesday to protect the vaquita marina, a highly endangered species of porpoise in the upper Gulf of California.

Canadian and US experts will join their Mexican counterparts in studying the rare animal and working to convince fisherman in Gulf communities to abandon fine-mesh fishing nets. Researchers hope to finish collecting initial data by December.

The North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation, which is helping coordinate the effort, said only about 150 of the elusive vaquitas remain in the wild, and as many as 40 are killed each year by fishing nets.—Internet

Brazil’s clothing, textile industries to benefit from financial crisis

RIO DE JANEIRO, 29 Oct.—Brazil’s textile and clothing industries will benefit from the ongoing worldwide financial crisis, expecting growth both during the Christmas season and next year, said the Brazilian Textile and Apparel Industry Association (ABIT) on Tuesday. According to ABIT, investments in the sectors are expected to reach 1 billion reais (454 million US dollars) in 2009, while the year 2008 is expected to see a deficit of 1.6 billion dollars.

Growth in both sectors in 2008 were slim: the textile industry grew by only 0.3 percent in the period, and the clothing industry 4.9 percent, while the average growth of all Brazilian industries was 6 percent in the first eight months of the year. Losses in the two sectors were attributed to an increase in imports, which was coupled by a devaluation of the Brazilian real against the US dollar.—Internet
German Environment Minister Sigmar Gabriel (L) and Heiko Ross, CEO of BARD Engineering pose for a photo during the bringing into service of the nearshore wind power plant near Hooksiel in northern Germany. 80 of these nearshore wind power plants are to be built on the coastline in 2009.  

**Internet**

**Grapes may help lower blood pressure**

**Chicaco, 29 Oct** — Grapes helped lower blood pressure and improve heart function in lab rats fed an otherwise salty diet, US researchers said on Wednesday.

The findings, published in the Journal of Gerontology: Biological Sciences, may help people with high blood pressure, they said.

“These findings support our theory that something within the grapes themselves has a direct impact on cardiovascular risk, beyond the simple blood pressure-lowering impact that we already know can come from a diet rich in fruits and vegetables,” Mitchell Seymour of the Cardioprotection Research Laboratory at the University of Michigan said in a statement.

In a study sponsored in part by California grape producers, Seymour and colleagues examined the effects of ordinary grapes on rats that develop high blood pressure when fed a salty diet.

**Wild birds carry avian flu viruses to US**

**Washington, 29 Oct** — Migrating waterfowl may be carrying avian influenza viruses from Asia to the Americas, US government researchers reported on Tuesday.

They found genetic evidence that some non-dangerous influenza viruses infecting northern pintail ducks in Alaska are genetically more closely related to Asian strains of bird flu than to North American strains.

“Although some previous research has led to speculation that intercontinental transfer of avian influenza viruses from Asia to North America via wild birds is rare, this study challenges that,” said Chris Franson, a research wildlife biologist at the US Geological Survey, who helped lead the study.

**Motorola plans job cuts, focus on Google software**

**New York, 29 Oct** — Motorola Inc’s (MOT) co-chief executive, Sanjay Jha, plans to make more job cuts and simplify how it makes devices, the Wall Street Journal reported on its website on Tuesday.

Details of the plan, which could include thousands of layoffs, could be announced Thursday, when the company reports its results, the paper said. Jha, who heads the mobile devices business, has decided to focus on Google Inc (GOOG.O) software as the operating system for many new phones, the Journal reported, citing unnamed sources.

The paper said Motorola will build mid-tier devices, which account for most of its sales, around Android, while business-focused devices will be based on Microsoft Corp’s (MSFT.O) Windows Mobile.

**Vitamin E, selenium fail to reduce prostate cancer risk**

**Beijing, 29 Oct** — A seven-year research trying to find the effects of Vitamin E and selenium supplements on prostate cancer has been halted because, either alone or together, they do not reduce the risk, and may even heighten it, according to media reports on Wednesday.

The 114 million-dollar study was conducted by US National Cancer Institute, involving more than 35,000 subjects and at 400 sites around the United States.

The result came after researchers began tallying the data and found there were slightly more prostate cancers in men taking vitamin E alone, and slightly more diabetes in men taking only selenium, quite the reverse to the previous expectation that selenium and Vitamin E might decrease the risk of developing prostate cancer by 60 percent and 30 percent by taking alone or together.

“I am afraid it will be the end of the story for large trials of vitamin E and selenium to prevent prostate cancer,” said the study investigator Edward MMessing, professor and chairman of urology and deputy director of the Cancer Centre at the University of Rochester.

“For vitamin E, that is unfortunate. Probably if given in a more effective form, it would be a protective or even therapeutic agent.”

**Tyrrannosaurus rex noses out dinosaur competition**

**Washington, 29 Oct** — When it came to the sense of smell among meat-eating dinosaurs, Tyrannosaurus rex nosed out the competition.

Scientists at the University of Calgary and the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Alberta, Canada, compared the size of their olfactory bulbs — part of the brain regulating the sense of smell in a wide range of carnivorous dinosaurs.

The researchers performed CT scans and measured fossilized skulls of meat-eating dinosaurs, known as theropods, including huge predators, smaller raptors and ostrich-like dinosaurs.

They also looked at the primitive bird Archaeopteryx and Tyrannosaurus, the scourge of North America at the end of the age of dinosaurs, the undisputed king.

“Tyrannosaurus rex’s olfactory bulbs were largest of the whole group of non-dangerous influenza viruses from Asia to North America via wild birds is rare, this study challenges that,” said Chris Franson, a research wildlife biologist at the US Geological Survey, who helped lead the study.

**A full scale model of a ‘Tyrannosaurus rex’ is put on display at a new exhibit ‘The feast of dinosaurs’ at Palais de la Decouverte museum in Paris.**

**NASA orbiter reveals details of wetter Mars**

**Washington, 29 Oct** — US Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter has observed a new category of minerals spread across large regions of Mars, which suggests liquid water remained on the planet’s surface 1 billion years later than scientists believed, the US space agency NASA announced on Tuesday.

Researchers examining data from the orbiter’s imaging spectrometer for Mars found evidence of hydrated silica, commonly known as opal.

The hydrated, or water-containing, mineral deposits are telltale signs of where and when water was present on ancient Mars.

“This is an exciting discovery because it extends the time range for liquid water on Mars, and the places where it might have supported life,” said Scott Murchie, the spectrometer’s principal investigator at Johns Hopkins University. “The identification of opaline silica tells us that water may have existed as recently as 2 billion years ago.”

Until now, only two major groups of hydrated minerals, phyllosilicates and hydrated sulfates, had been observed by spacecraft orbiting Mars.
**SPORTS**

**Argentina turn to football legend Maradona for repeat of World Cup glory**

BUENOS AIRES, 29 Oct — Argentinian football legend Diego Maradona capped a remarkable comeback from a near fatal heart attack four years ago to being named coach of the national side here on Tuesday. Maradona, who will be 48 on Thursday and who has no top level coaching experience, said he hoped to repeat the success of the 1986 World Cup when as a player he inspired them virtually singlehandedly to the title. He will be assisted in that mission of winning the 2010 World Cup in South Africa by another integral member of the 1986 set-up coach Carlos Bilardo, who will be the director of football.

We aim to lead by Christmas, says Bayern’s Klinsmann

MUNICH, 29 Oct — Bayern Munich coach Jurgen Klinsmann said Tuesday he plans to have the defending Bundesliga champions back at the top of the table by Christmas as his side prepare to take on Eintracht Frankfurt on Wednesday. Bayern jumped from 11th to 5th in the league over the weekend when they hit back from 2-0 down to beat Wolfsburg 4-2 at Munich’s Allianz Arena, and aim for their fourth straight win at Eintracht Frankfurt on Wednesday.

**Barton strikes as Newcastle gain valuable win**

Newcastle United’s English International Joey Barton vies during the Premiership game at St James Park in Newcastle, Newcastle United Vs West Bromich Albion. Newcastle won 2-0. —INTERNET

Barton, 29 Oct — Joey Barton justified the faith of Newcastle United manager Joe Kinnear by scoring the opening goal as the Magpies beat West Brom 2-0 for only their second Premier League win this season. Barton, making his first start since being released from prison, struck from the penalty spot in the 10th minute before birthday boy Obafemi Martins added a second three minutes before half-time at St James’ Park here on Tuesday.

**Torres still missing for Liverpool**

LONDON, 29 Oct — Premier League leaders Liverpool are set to be without star striker Fernando Torres for the fourth successive match when Portsmouth arrive at Anfield on Wednesday. The Spain international is still recovering from a hamstring injury and, although he trained Tuesday, this weekend’s match against Tottenham is seen as a more realistic target for a comeback appearance.

**Roma president gives Spalletti full backing**

ROME, 29 Oct — AS Roma’s under-fire boss Luciano Spalletti, seen here on 21 Oct, 2008, was given the backing of the club’s president Rosella Sensi on Tuesday, after a series of poor results has left the capital club 15th in Serie A. —INTERNET

AS Roma’s under-fire boss Luciano Spalletti was given the backing of the club’s president Rosella Sensi on Tuesday, after a series of poor results has left the capital club 15th in Serie A. The two met earlier to discuss the club’s faltering performances that have seen them lose three consecutive league matches and a Champions League tie against Chelsea last week, their record of the three matches so far having gone down to Romanian side Cluj in their opening clash.

**Late strikes put Leverkusen top as Bremen crumble**

Bremen, 29 Oct — Werder Bremen’s defence leaked two late goals in quick succession to hand Bayer Leverkusen a 2-0 victory and three points to put them top of the Bundesliga on Tuesday night. The game was heading for a 0-0 draw until Bayer’s Brazilian midfielder Renato Augusto put in a cross and a mix-up in the Bremen defence allowed midfielder Arturo Vidal a simple tap in.

And after the Chilean’s goal on 71 minutes, another mistake in the Bremen defence allowed Germany defender Manuel Friedrich to lob Bremen goalkeeper Christian Vander just nine minutes later to leave Bremen red faced.—INTERNET

**Ferguson thankful to have signed up Fletcher**

MANCHESTER, 29 Oct — Forget Cristiano Ronaldo staying or Dimitar Berbatov arriving, Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson says his most important contract negotiation this season was keeping Darren Fletcher at Old Trafford.

Scotland midfielder Fletcher made just 24 appearances last term and, with United boasting a wealth of players in his position, could easily have decided his first-team future elsewhere. But instead the 24-year-old, who joined United as a teenager eight years ago, opted to stay after being rewarded with a four-year contract.

**Top stars in the wings as Roddick, Del Potro advance**

PARIS, 29 Oct — The shiniest stars will come out on Wednesday at the Paris Masters when Rafael Nadal, Roger Federer and Andy Murray will all be in action - but Tuesday belonged to Andy Roddick, Juan Martin del Potro and Novak Djokovic as they raced into the last 16.

Nadal - who has the Shanghai Masters and also the Davis Cup final to preoccupy him - will meet Frenchmen Florent Serra, who took just five games off the world number one across two previous meetings, both this year, before Federer takes on newly-crowned Lyon winner Robin Soderling of Sweden. —INTERNET

**Torres's fellow forward Robbie Keane is still troubled by a groin problem.**

INTERNET

**Petrova cruises into second round in Quebec tennis**

QUEBEC CRY, 29 Oct — Top-seeded Russian Nadia Petrova cruised into the second round of the 175,000-dollar Challenge Bell WTA tournament here, but a string of other seeds were less fortunate.—INTERNET

Petrova, the former world number three, advanced with a 6-1, 6-2 victory over Russian qualifier Maria Mokh on Tuesday. Petrova, 26, is seeking to continue her recent resurgence at this Tier Three tournament.
Tens of thousands of civilians flee in east Congo

KILIMANYOKA, 28 Oct—Rebels vowing to take Congo’s eastern provincial capital advanced toward Goma on Tuesday, sending tens of thousands fleeing. Chaos gripped a separate front as government soldiers fired on civilians and aid workers trying to escape, the top UN envoy said.

Alan Doss said peacekeepers were forced to “respond,” apparently meaning they shot at troops who are supposed to be their allies, after the soldiers opened fire on those trying to leave Rutshuru, about 45 miles north of Goma. He vowed to keep Rutshuru and other strategic towns out of rebel hands.

“We are going to remain there, and we are going to act against any effort to take over a city or major population center by force,” Doss told reporters in New York in a video conference.

UN helicopter gunships were being used on fronts near Rutshuru and Kilimanyoka, about seven miles north of Goma. They were harried by rebels’ use of civilians as shields, UN spokeswoman Sylvia van den Wildenberg told The Associated Press. The rebels also are fighting around Rugari, a town several miles north of Kilimanyoka and also between Goma and Rutshuru, as well as northwest of Goma around Saké — using several fronts to scatter government forces and UN peacekeepers.

Source: The New Light of Myanmar

Female US veterans suffer sexual trauma: study

WASHINGTON, 28 Oct—Nearly 15 percent of female US veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan experienced sexual trauma during their military service, the Department of Veterans Affairs said in a study.

The study, based on data from 100,000 veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom who used VA health care, found that more than one in seven women reported having experienced “military sexual trauma.” The study, covering a six-year period, also found that 0.7 percent of men returning from duty reported military sexual trauma.—Internet

Sri Lankan capital, military base bombed by rebel aircraft

COLOMBO, 28 Oct — A power station in the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo was slightly damaged after being bombed by Tamil Tiger rebels late Tuesday night, defense officials said.

Officials from the Defense Ministry said the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) launched an air attack at the Kelani-Tissa power plant late Tuesday night and “caused minor damages to the premises.”

Local media quoted military sources as saying that the Colombo bombing came shortly after LTTE aircraft attacked Taladdi military base in the northern Mannar district around 11 p.m. (1730 GMT).—Xinhua

Source: The New Light of Myanmar

Weather

Wednesday, 29 October, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kayah and Kayin States, scattered in Rakhine State, fairly widespread in Mon State, Upper Sagra and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfalls in Lower Sagra, Mandalay and Magway Divisions. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Thapayagone) (2.01) inches, Nay Pyi Taw (Lewe) (1.65) inches, Nay Pyi Taw (Yezin) (1.30) inches, Nay Pyi Taw (Taikon) (0.82) inch, Pakokk (9.19) inches, Kawthoung (2.75) inches, Kyunshwe (2.56) inches, Mogok (2.52) inches, Myinmu (2.36) inches, Lasbo (2.33) inches, Pyinmana (2.28) inches, Shwebo (2.13) inches, Taunggyi (Aviation) (2.05) inches, Yamethin (1.58) inches, Minbu and Mawlamyine (1.54) inches each.

Maximum temperature on 28-10-2008 was 83°F. Minimum temperature on 29-10-2008 was 68°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 29-10-2008 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 28-10-2008 was (2.4) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 29-10-2008 was (0.66) inch at Mingaladon, (0.87) inch at Kaba-Aye and (1.61) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-12-2008 was (108.38) inches at Mingaladon, (120.12) inches at Kaba-Aye and (159.72) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (112) mph from West at (17:20) hours MST on 29-10-2008.

Bay inference: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 30th October 2008: Rain or thunderstorms will be widespread in Kachin, Shan States and Taninthayi Division, fairly widespread in Chin, Mon and Kayin States, Sagra, Ayeyawady, Mandalay and Magway Divisions and scattered in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

Outlook for subsequent two days: Continuation of rain or thunderstorms in the Lower Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 30-10-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (90%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 30-10-2008: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (90%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 30-10-2008: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (90%).
Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held every year in response to duty given by history are achieving successes year after year.

Secretary-1 delivers an address at prize presentation ceremony of 16th Performing Arts Competitions.

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Oct—The following is a translation of the speech delivered by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo at the prize presentation ceremony of the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions at Nay Pyi Taw City Hall, today.

I cordially wish senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Ministers, Deputy Ministers, specially invited guests, members of the panel of judges and all competitors to be endowed with all auspiciousness and to be able to preserve the national characteristics of our nation and the people through the might of performing arts.

The Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts which have been preserved by holding competitions every year with noble objectives, have passed thousands of years along the history and is now flourishing well with integrated cultures.

(See page 6)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo delivers a speech at prize presentation ceremony of 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions. —MNA

Secretary-1 awards winners in 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Oct—The awarding ceremony for the 16th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions took place at the City Hall of Nay Pyi Taw this morning.

It was attended by Patron of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Performing Arts Competitions Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo.

(See page 6)

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo presents prize for marionette master in amateur level (first class) marionette (Maha Buddhavamsa Renunciation) contest to Mann Theinga troupe of Mandalay Division. —MNA

MNA