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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

New cotton strain benefits farmers in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon

Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin inspects cotton plantation in Kayansatkon Village-tract in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov — Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin inspected cotton plantation in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township yesterday. The commander visited Kayansatkon Village-tract and inspected the 2.5 acre plantation at field No. 1304. Altogether 9,680 plants are grown per acre, an official concerned said in his report to the commander. Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon Township sets its target of 11,900 acres of cotton in the Township this year, and 12,006 acres have been put under cotton in the township. Local cotton farmers’ income has increased as they grow the new high-yield strain of cotton. It is expected that per acre yield of cotton can reach 1500 viss. — MNA

Kayah State in position to produce human resources locally

A golden opportunity recently smiled on our media group to join the inspection tour of Minister for Forestry Brig-Gen Thein Aung of projects for regional development in Kayah State.

Loikaw, the capital of Kayah State, stands at an altitude of more than 2,950 feet. Now, the rainy season has said its goodbye, thus ushering in the cold season, and it is slightly cold in the hilly region.

University of Technology (Loikaw) in Kayah State.

Article : Maung Maung Htwe (MNA)
Photos : Hla Moe (MNA)
Regional development works in Dimawhso Tsp inspected

Minister Brig-Gen Thein Aung presents K 900,000 to Thaysule village in Dimawhso Township through an official.—MNA

Victorious Myanmar Wushu team arrives back

Yangon, 4 Nov — Victorious Myanmar Wushu team arrived back here by air this afternoon. They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik, officials. Secretary of central working committee of Myanmar Women’s Sports Federation Daw L. Khun Yi, President of Myanmar Wushu Federation Dr Sai Sam Htun and executives, players and their relatives.

Myanmar Wushu team comprises Chairman of Tatmadaw Wushu Committee Lt-Col Zaw Tun as a manager, general secretary of MWF U Khun Jar Aung as a coach and Wai Phyo Aung (No.3 BEHS, Sangyoung), Hein Zaw (No.5 BEHS, Kamayut), Shwe Yi Win (No.2 BEHS, Sangyoung) and Eint Me Me (No.1 BEHS, Dagon) as players.

The team won three gold and five silver medals in the 3rd World Wushu Tournament held in the People’s Republic of China from 31 October to 2 November. Each player got two medals. More than 2,000 players from 69 countries participated in the tournament.—MNA

20th All Myanmar Sport Meet for the Disabled on 14-19 Nov

Yangon, 4 Nov — The 20th All Myanmar Sport Meet for the Disabled under the arrangement of Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanmar Disabled Sports Federation will be held in the Aung San Stadium from 14 to 19 November.

Track and field events will be held at Aung San Stadium on 14 and 15 November, swimming events at the National Swimming Pool and table tennis at Myanmar Table Tennis Federation on 16 November, volleyball matches at Aung San Stadium on 17 November, Badminton tournament at the national gymnasium (Kyongyi) on 18 November and golf tournament at the Tatmadaw Golf Course on 19 November.

Sports competitions for persons of low intelligence will be held at Youth Training Centre on 17 and 18 November.

Those wishing to participate in the events may enrol at Myanmar Disabled Sport Federation (Ph: 01382455) in Aung San Stadium 7 November at the latest.—MNA
Blasts in Baghdad kill 15, wound 29

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov—An internal review by the American military has found that a local Afghan police chief and another district leader helped Taliban militants carry out an attack on 13 July in which nine United States soldiers were killed and a remote American outpost in eastern Afghanistan was nearly overrun. Afghan and American forces had started building an outpost in eastern Afghanistan was nearly overrun. Afghan and American forces had started building the makeshift base just five days before the attack, and villagers repeatedly warned the American troops in that time that militants were plotting a strike, the report found. It said that the warnings did not include details, and that troops never anticipated such a large and well-coordinated attack.

The assault involved some 200 fighters, nearly three times the number of Americans and Afghans defending the site. —Internet

Bloodshed increase in Baghdad

TUESDAY’s blasts — coming a day after a string of bombings killed 10 people — mark an increase in bloodshed in Baghdad and underscore that extremists remain a threat.

In the northern city of Mosul, a suicide bomber rammed his car into a passing police patrol, injuring four officers, police said.

Mosul experiences spike in violence

Two other attacks took place Tuesday in Mosul, which has also experienced a spike in violence in recent months. A roadside bomb struck an army patrol, injuring an officer, and a gunman opened fire on a police man, wounding him. —Internet

Suicide bomber injures eight at Pakistan checkpoint

PESHAWAR, 4 Nov—A suspected suicide bomber blew himself up Tuesday at a checkpoint in a remote northwestern Pakistan district, injuring eight people, officials said.

The attack took place in the town of Doaba in northwestern Hangu district, which has a history of sectarian and militant violence.

"The bombing took place when paramilitary soldiers and police were checking cars entering Doaba market," Haif said. —AFP

Afghan civilians killed in Both far from the US attack

KABUL, 4 Nov—A US civilian shot dead an Afghan civilian who tried to set fire to another American on Tuesday, the US military said.

At least 4,000 people have been killed in Afghanistan this year, some 1,000 of them civilians. It is still rare though for foreign civilians to be directly engaged in the conflict. The shooting occurred after an altercation, a US military statement said. —AFP

Americans vote in historic poll

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov—Voters across the United States are flocking to polling stations to choose a new president.

Republican John McCain is attempting to defy the opinion polls while Democrat Barack Obama is seeking to become the country’s first black president.

Mr Obama, an Illinois senator, cast his ballot in Chicago. Mr McCain has gone to Arizona, his home state, to vote.

Record numbers were expected to turn out, adding their ballots to the 29 million who have voted early. Some 130 million Americans are expected to vote, in a higher turnout than in any election since 1960. —Internet

A man rushes carrying a small girl into the emergency rooms of the general hospital in the city of Kirkuk, 158 miles (255 kilometres) north of Baghdad, following an explosion. —INTERNET

An Iraqi man walks near damaged cars after two bomb exploded in al-Tahariyat Square, central Baghdad, Iraq, on 3 Nov, 2008. —INTERNET

Record numbers were expected to turn out, adding their ballots to the 29 million who have voted early. Some 130 million Americans are expected to vote, in a higher turnout than in any election since 1960. —Internet

New Hampshire.

Mr Obama. In the first voting of the day, Mr Obama won by 15 votes to six in the town of Dixville Notch, New Hampshire. —Internet
Obama’s grandmother dies before US Election Day

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov—US Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama’s grandmother, Madelyn Dunham, died of cancer on Sunday, Obama and his sister, Maya Soetoro-Ng, said Monday.

“She was the cornerstone of our family, and a woman of extraordinary accomplishment, strength, and humility,” their statement said.

“She was the person who encouraged and allowed us to take chances. She was proud of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and left this world with the knowledge that her impact on all of us was meaningful and enduring. Our debt to her is beyond measure,” it added.

Obama and Soetoro-Ng asked that donations be made for the search for a cure for cancer in lieu of flowers.

He left the campaign trail for two days in late October to visit Dunham in Hawaii.

Obama spoke about his grandmother often on the stump, describing her as an integral figure in his youth who struggled against the glass ceiling in to make a better life for him.

Farmer’s income can be doubled by 2020

BEIJING, 4 Nov—At the third plenary session of its 17th Central Committee, which concluded on 12 October, the Communist Party of China (CPC) approved a resolution on major issues concerning rural reform and development.

It was a new, significant move made by the ruling party on rural development on the 30th anniversary of the Third Plenum of the 11th CPC Central Committee in 1978, which pioneered the country’s historic reform and opening-up drive.

The resolution, which is no doubt to serve as a guiding document for rural reform and development in the following years, draws an inspiring blueprint for the vast underdeveloped rural areas under the new situations at home and abroad.

In the document, the Party outlined a series of tasks and goals for rural development, ranging from economic, political, cultural, social and ecological construction to setting an ambitious development goal by 2020.

Flood and torrential rain take 64 lives

HANOI, 4 Nov—64 people in northern and central Vietnam have been killed or left missing in flood triggered by torrential rains over the last several days, the Vietnam News Agency reported on Tuesday.

The victims included 18 in the capital city of Hanoi, which had suffered severe flooding believed to be the worst in more than two decades, said the National Steering Committee for Flood and Storm Control. The death toll in central Ha Tinh Province also hit 17.

While initial figures on flood fatality and economic loss are being updated, the Central Hydro-meteorology Forecast Centre said more rain is expected in the northern and central provinces as a new wave of cool air is approaching the areas.

The Vietnam Red Cross Central Committee decided to provide initial relief aid worth 1 billion Vietnamese dong (one dollar is against 16.5 Vietnamese dong) in cash and commodities to nine cities and provinces ravaged by floods and torrential rains in recent days.

Ilan Ladén’s media man convicted of war crimes

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov—A US military jury on Monday convicted Osama bin Laden’s media secretary of war crimes for creating an al-Qaeda recruiting video that prosecutors argued incited suicide bombers.

Ali Hamza al Bahili, about 40, of Yemen, offered no immediate reaction as the judge announced his guilty verdict.

He became only the second detainee among the 255 here ever convicted of war crimes before the special terror court US President George W Bush ordered set up after the 11 Sept, 2001, attacks.

US, Australian embassies in Jakarta receive bomb threats

JAKARTA, 4 Nov—The US and Australian embassies in Jakarta received bomb threats on Tuesday, as the country is tightening security ahead of imminent execution of three Bali bombers, police said here.

An official at the US embassy confirmed that it has received the threat. National police spokesman Abubakar Napaprvaria said the threat was received through a telephone text message.

The police searching the embassies did not find the bombs, said Napaprvaria. The threat said that someone has put bombs at the embassies and will detonate should Amrozi Bali bombers be executed, according to Detik online.

All items from Xinhua News Agency
A child, suffering from diarrhea, receives care at the Mercy Corps clinic near the Internally Displaced People (IDP's) camp in Kabati, 10 kms (6.21 miles) north of the provincial capital of Goma, DR Congo.—INTERNET

Egyptian ruling party vows to promote economic growth, social justice

CAIRO, 4 Nov—Egypt’s ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) wrapped up its fifth annual conference on Monday, promising to push forward reforms to maintain economic growth and expand social justice in the populous Arab country in face of the current global financial crisis.

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US construction spending drops less than expected

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov—US construction spending fell by 0.3 percent in September, less than the 0.8 percent decline expected by analysts, the Commerce Department reported Monday.

The 0.3 percent decrease, the third drop in the past four months, left total construction spending in September at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.06 trillion US dollars, or 6.5 percent below the year-ago level.

Construction spending in August had been revised to a 0.3 percent gain, which followed a huge 2.4 percent plunge in July.

For September, private builders cut back their spending on residential construction by 1.3 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 336.5 billion dollars. Housing building has fallen every month but two over the past 30 months.—INTERNET

Five people shot dead in California homeless camp

LOS ANGELES, 4 Nov—Five people were found shot dead in a homeless encampment south of Los Angeles on Sunday, police said.

The two women and three men were not identified and officials with the Long Beach Police Dept. said they did not have a motive or suspect.

Acting on an anonymous tip, police discovered the bodies in a brush-filled area between some commercial buildings and a freeway in the city of Long Beach, about 20 miles south of downtown Los Angeles. It was not clear if the victims were homeless, or had just been visiting the encampment, police said.—INTERNET

APEC needs to reinforce free trade to fight int’l financial crisis

TRUJILLO, 4 Nov—The 21 members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum need to reinforce free trade amid other efforts to fight international financial crisis, a high ranking Peruvian official said during an APEC Finance Preparatory Meeting held here on Monday.

According to a press statement released on Monday, Javier Kapsoli, representative of the Peruvian Ministry of Economy and Finances and Chair of the APEC Finance Preparatory Meeting, said the agenda of the 15th Finance Ministerial Meeting has changed due to the current global financial environment. “The central idea is not to use this crisis as a pretext to get back to protectionist measures, but to continue to reinforce free trade tendenc in the region,” he said.

He also stressed that Peru was able to face the current financial crisis because of Peruvian banks’ mobility levels and of low level of public debt. “Our situation is robust to face an economic crisis and even to keep obtaining growing changes, in spite of this recession. Thus, we have expected investment amounts of 35 billion US dollars in different sectors for the next three years. This will allow us to continue with a good growing rate,” he said.—INTERNET

16 French tourists injured in coach accident in Morocco

RABAT, 4 Nov—Sixteen French tourists were injured, including five seriously, when a tourist coach overturned Monday in the highway connecting the capital, Rabat to the central city of Fez (200 km east of Rabat), local MAP News Agency reported.

The coach was transporting 21 tourists, two drivers and a guide, said local authorities. The injured were evacuated to the hospital of neighbouring Khemisset, it added, without specifying the causes of the accident.—INTERNET

An Iraqi woman walks with her child next to a damaged car after a bomb explosion in the Mashtal neighborhood of eastern Baghdad, Iraq on 4 Nov, 2008.—INTERNET

Newly established China aviation group to take over foreign rival

BEIJING, 4 Nov—Newly merged China Aviation Industry Corporation (AVIC) plans to acquire a foreign general aviation aircraft manufacturer to strengthen its development capabilities.

An acquisition agreement is expected to be signed by the end of this year, Tan Weidong, President of AVIC General Aviation Co Ltd, was quoted as saying by Tuesday’s China Daily.

Tan did not reveal the name of the foreign company.

AVIC is also planning to list its general aviation businesses in the near future, Tan added.

Tan made the remarks on the sidelines of the China International Aviation & Aerospace Forum 2008, on the eve of the Zhuhai Air Show.

AVIC General Aviation, Tan said, also plans to develop 10, 20 and 30-seat business jets, as well as turbo-prop hydroplanes in the near future.

AVIC was launched at the end of last month with the merging of China’s two leading State-owned aviation manufacturers, AVIC 1 and AVIC II, amid government efforts to consolidate and strengthen the country’s aviation manufacturing capabilities.
Exiled Hamas chief proposes Palestinian-Lebanese dialogue

BEIRUT, 4 Nov — Exiled politburo leader of the Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) Khaled Meshaal on Monday called for the launch of a dialogue between Lebanon and all Palestinian factions, local Naharnet website reported.

Mashaal told reporters after meeting Sunni majority leader Saad Hariri that "we called for launching a Palestinian-Lebanese dialogue in which the Palestinian side should be represented by all its factions."

Such a dialogue should tackle "all sensitive issues to safeguard Lebanon’s interests and security as well as provide dignified life for our Palestinian people that live in Lebanon," he was quoted as saying.

Mashaal, who is based in the Syrian capital of Damascus, reiterated the Palestinian refusal to set up a Palestinian political party in Lebanon.

An estimated 400,000 Palestinian refugees are scattered in several camps around Lebanon, but they lack legal documents or identity related to the Lebanese state.

Mashaal also met Lebanese President Michel Suleiman and Prime Minister Fouad Siniora during his rare visit to Lebanon, according to the report.

During his talks with Suleiman at the presidential palace, Mashaal said the Palestinians stand with all Lebanese parties on equal bases." Internet

Kidnappers kill Mexican child with acid injection

MEXICO CITY, 4 Nov — Kidnappers grabbed a 5-year-old boy from a gritty Mexico City street market, then killed him by injecting acid into his heart.

The boy, Javier Morena, was the oldest son of a poor family that sold fruit at a market in the tough neighbourhood of Iztapalapa, proof that the plague of kidnappings for ransom affects the working class as well as the wealthy.

Javier disappeared while playing at the market on 26 Oct., Mexico City authorities said on Monday. Internet

Anti-speeding car to put brakes on teenager racers

Parents all over the US are welcoming the prospect of a new system which will enable them to control the speed at which their teenager kids can drive their cars.

US car manufacturers have announced plans to launch an innovative computer chip which will be placed in the ignition key of cars and will give parents the ability to impose a speed limit when their teenage children are driving their cars.

The MyKey chip will not only regulate the speed of a car but also the volume of the CD and radio player, as well as informing the parents by means of an alarm if the driver is not using a seatbelt.

By the year 2010 Ford intend to have the system installed on many of their US models and aim to have MyKey available in every model as they become upgraded.

The legal age for driving in America is just 16 and alarming statistics reveal that more than 5,000 teenagers die in speed-related car crashes every year.

After a market research survey conducted by Ford, it therefore comes as little surprise that 75% of parents have expressed approval for the new system - and as equally predictable that 67% of teenagers disapprove.

Ford plans to initiate the MyKey system in other countries have not yet been announced. Internet

Two dozen terror suspects detained in Iraq

MOSSUL, 4 Nov — Twenty-four terror suspects were detained by coalition forces in three days of operations in central and northern Iraq, military officials said Monday.

Among those taken into custody Monday was a man who intelligence reports suggest oversaw the movement of bomb-making materials into Mosul, officials said.

Eleven other suspects also were detained, American Forces Press Service said. Internet

Bank customer in Belgium robbed of 44 kg of gold

A customer at an ING bank branch in the Belgian town of Overijse has been robbed of 44 kg of gold, Radio Netherlands reported.

The victim was robbed when he opened his safety deposit box. The robber had probably hid in the bank’s vault. He put a bag over the victim’s head and tied his wrists and ankles, the report said.

The bank’s surveillance cameras had been switched off by the assailant, who got away. The stolen gold is worth about 800,000 euros (some 1.02 million US dollars). Internet

Time to move to a new planet

The World Wildlife Fund believes humans could then become extinct. Some activists say the solution is to find a new planet to populate.

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,190

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov — As of Monday, 3 Nov, 2008, at least 4,190 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 3,388 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

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 554

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov — As of Monday, 3 Nov, 2008, at least 554 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defense Department. The department last updated its figures Monday at 10 am EDT. Of those, the military reports 402 were killed by hostile action.

Outside the Afghan region, the Defense Department reports 66 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action.

The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen. Internet

Kidnappers grab Mexican child from street market

MEXICO CITY, 4 Nov — Kidnappers grabbed a 5-year-old boy from a gritty Mexico City street market, then killed him by injecting acid into his heart.

The boy, Javier Morena, was the oldest son of a poor family that sold fruit at a market in the tough neighbourhood of Iztapalapa, proving that the plague of kidnappings for ransom is not just a problem for the wealthy.

Javier disappeared while playing at the market on 26 Oct., Mexico City authorities said on Monday. Internet

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Time to move to a new planet

The World Wildlife Fund believes humans could then become extinct. Some activists say the solution is to find a new planet to populate.
Manhsaung Bridge in Tiddim Township contributes to swing commodity flow

(upper caption)

Article: Nu Nu Yi & Aye Thanda Thein; Photo: Myanmar Alin

(from page 16)

Literary talks in Pyinmana

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov—Organized by Information and Public Relations Department, literary talks on development of village libraries and improvement of reading practices, was held at Lanpyinmana village in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township here on 2 Nov.

Director-General U Chit Naing of IPRD and Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township Writers and Journalists Association U San Kaung gave talks on the occasion. It was attended by students and local residents.

The director-general donated magazines and journals to Alinpwint library. Next, the director-general inspected construction of Alinpwint library with the contribution of K 2 million by U Soe Tint (Soe Electronics) and Armanthit library in Tharyargoon village. Pyankaipyay village-tract, with the contribution of K1 million by U Than Hitway-Daw Mya San Hla (Nan Sein confectionery) family.

Later, the director-general met with responsible persons and members of library committee and Development Council of K 5 million by District Peace and Development Counsil and K 300,000 by U Ohn Shwe (Main Battery), Bawame ein library in Kuakachat village with the contribution of K 2 and 1 million by U Soe Tint (Soe Electronics) and Armanthit library in Tharyargoon village. Pyankaipay village-tract, with the contribution of K1 million by U Than Hitway-Daw Mya San Hla (Nan Sein confectionery) family.

Earthquake Report

YANGON, 4 Nov—A moderate earthquake of intensity (5.7) Richter Scale with its epicenter about 1100 miles, South of Kaba-Aye Seismological observatory outside of Myanmar (Indonesia) was recorded at (01) hrs (56) min (00) sec MST on 4th November 2008.—MNA

Mending broken hearts with tissue engineering

SCIENCE DAILY, 4 Nov—Broken hearts could one day be mended using a novel scaffold developed by MIT researchers and colleagues. The new scaffold approach could also aid the engineering of other tissues.

The idea is that living heart cells or stem cells seeded onto such a scaffold would develop into a patch of cardiac tissue that could be used to treat congenital heart defects, or aid the recovery of tissue damaged by a heart attack. The biodegradable scaffold would be gradually absorbed into the body, leaving behind new tissue.

The accordion-like honeycomb scaffold, reported in the Nov. 2 online edition of Nature Materials, is the first to be explicitly designed to match the structural and mechanical properties of native heart tissue. As a result, it has several advantages over previous cardiac tissue engineering scaffolds.—Internet

Violent video game feed aggression in kids in Japan, US

SCIENCE DAILY, 3 Nov—It’s not just American kids who become more aggressive by playing violent video games. A new study — presented last month at the inaugural seminar sponsored by Iowa State University’s Center for the Study of Violence — showed effects of violent video games on aggression over a 3-6 month period in children from Japan as well as the United States.

ISU Distinguished Professor of Psychology Craig Anderson — director of the Center for the Study of Violence — presented the results from the study, which is published in the November issue of Pediatrics, the professional journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

The research links an earlier ISU study of 364 American children ages 9-12 with two similar studies of more than 1,200 children between the ages of 12-18 from Japan. It found that exposure to violent video games was a causal risk factor for aggression and violence in those children.—Internet

Translation: TTA

Myanmar Alin: 25-10-2008

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Sixth Plenary Meeting of 6th 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee on 22 and 23 November

YANGON, 4 Nov—The sixth Plenary Meeting of the 6th 47-member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee will be held on 22 and 23 November 2008 (10th and 11th Waning of Tazauengmon 1370 ME). Invitations have already been sent to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws who are humbly requested to arrive here on 18 November (6th waning of Tazauengmon 1370 ME). The Sayadaws are also humbly requested to arrive here on the designated days should the invitations do not arrive in time.

NAY Pyi Taw, 4 Nov—Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay went on an inspection tour of No. 4 Fertilizer Plant construction project (Myaungdaka) in Hmawby township, being implemented by Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy on 1 November.

At the briefing hall, the project director and officials briefed on the tasks for the project.

The deputy minister attended to the needs and gave instructions on systematic spending of money in line with financial rules.

Regarding supervision on the qualifications of the technicians, the deputy minister met with technicians from HQCEC Company of the People’s Republic of China and discussed constant supervisions on timely completion of the project and timely arrival of machine parts and inspected progress of work in the project area.

In Pathein on the following day, the deputy minister looked into progress in building of No. 5 Fertilizer Plant construction project. At the briefing hall, the project director and officials presented reports on functions to the deputy minister. Next, the deputy minister discussed the needs for the project.

Afterwards, the deputy minister presented gifts to the technicians of the company and inspected progress of work in the project area.

Fertilizer plant projects inspected

Training for Community Animal Health Workers opens

YANGON, 4 Nov—With the aim of promoting animal health care, Training for Community Animal Health Workers jointly-organized by Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and Care Myanmar, was opened at the training hall of Animal Health and Development Department (Branch) in Insein Township, here yesterday morning.

Deputy Director-General Dr Aung Gyi and Assistant Country Director of Care Myanmar Mr Daire O’Riley made opening speeches.

A total of 30 trainees are attending the course.

It was attended by Ms Adelina Kamal from ASEAN Secretariat and Resident Representative of UNDP Mr Bishow Parajuli.

Tripartite Core Group donates cash for construction of houses in Kungyangon Township

YANGON, 4 Nov—Cyclone Nargis struck Myanmar on 2 and 3 May 2008, affecting communities and livelihoods in the Ayeawady and Yangon divisions which resulted in loss of many lives and property.

Tripartite Core Group (TCG) and its members comprising the Government of Myanmar, ASEAN and UN led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu donated K 27 million for the construction of 45 houses for the affected families in the Seik Gyi Village, Taw Khayan Gyi (West) village-tract in Kungyangon Township.

Civil engineers to meet on 27 Dec road in Mayangon Township here on 27 December. And get-together will also be held at Myayezikyo hotel on the same day. The old students need to attend without fail and may make contact with U Ohn Kyaw (71) Ph-09-5171622 and Ko Kyaw Linn (73) Ph-09-5010385.

Civil engineers to meet on 27 Dec

Myanmar Women Football team to take part in Asia Women Football Tournament under-16

YANGON, 4 Nov—General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee Director-General of Sports and Physical Education Department U Thaung Htaik met Myanmar Women footballers who will be participating in the Asia Women Football Tournament under-16 at the Aung San Stadium this afternoon.

The football tournament will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 8 to 18 November.

An old student hands over K 600,000 to a member of organizing committee of get-together ceremony. —NLM

MNA
YANGON, 4 Nov—The Supervisory Committee for Greening the 30-mile radius of Yangon held its meeting at the meeting hall of Yangon Command Headquarters yesterday.

Chairman of the Supervisory Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint made a speech on the occasion. In his speech, he spoke of the need to exceed the target of growing monsoon and summer paddy, winter crops, vegetables, edible oil crops, physic nut and maize, to meet the record yield, to apply modern farm equipment and to grow more edible oil crops.

Next, Secretary of the Supervisory Committee Managing Director of Myanmar Perennial Crops Enterprise U Kyi Win reported on progress in cultivation of monsoon and summer paddy, winter crops, vegetables, edible oil crops and physic nut and future tasks.

This was followed by a general round of discussions.

The meeting came to an end with the concluding remarks by the commander.—MNA

Want to become an int’l level programmer?

YANGON, 4 Nov—The computer associations in Myanmar will celebrate their 10th anniversary commemorative exhibition on a grand scale at Myanmar Info-Tech Building in Hline Township, here, from 7 to 9 November.

During the exhibition period, Gusto training centre, as a special programme, will give tokens to attend its programming courses. Those who receive tokens may enroll at the centre at No. 11, Shwedaungdan Street (Lower), Lanmadaw Township, Yangon, by 7 December 2008.

The centre said that the programme was intended to help produce more qualified young programmers for development of Myanmar’s software industry.—MNA

Myanmar eyes greening of its environs

YANGON eyes greening of its environs

Myanmar deserves winning over Jordan

Press meet on Grand Royal Challenge Cup '08

Chairman of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw delivers an address at press conference on Grand Royal Challenge Cup '08.

Royal Challenge Cup '08 took place at the Traders Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road here this afternoon.

President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw clarified facts related to the participant football teams.

Next, Managing Director of International Beverages Trading Co Ltd U Aung Moe Kyaw explained the purpose of sponsoring the tourney and Treasurer of MFF U Than Zaw arrangements made for organizing the match.

The 6-country invitational football tournament will be held from 11 to 21 November at the Youth Training Centre (Thuwunna). The participants are host Myanmar, Bangalore, Indonesia, Merdeka champion Vietnam U-23, Malaysia, Ulsa Honda Club of Republic of Korea.

The first prize is US$ 15,000, the second prize US$ 7,500 and there will also be man of the match award and the best player award.—MNA
North-West Command Commander’s Shield Shooting Championship

YANGON, 4 Nov — A ceremony to open the 15th Commander’s Shield Shooting Championship of North-West Command was held at Station Command in Shwebo Township on 30 October. Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Myint Soe addressed an opening address on the occasion and opened the contest. — MNA

Kengtawng hydropower project in Shan State (South) nearing completion

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov — Minister for Electric Power No. 1 Col Zaw Min on 2 November morning inspected Kengtawng hydropower project about 30 miles northeast of Monei, Langkho District, Shan State (South).

During his inspection tour, the minister heard a report presented by Director of Construction Group-7 U San Wai on salient points of the project, and stressed the need to continue implementing the project as its nearing completion and went on to say that most of the towns in Shan State (South) are now being supplied with electric power. After inspecting the project, the minister presented gifts to Chinese technicians and the plant manager. At present, the hydropower project is supplying electric power to Kengtawng, Langkho, Mongpan, Monei, Maikma, Namkham, Loilem, Mongpan, Panglong, Leikha, Hopong and Taunggyi round the clock. The whole project will be completed soon. — MNA

Roads in Yangon upgraded

YANGON, 4 Nov — Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Brig-Gen Aung Thien Lin inspected maintenance of ditches for proper flow of water along Kaba-Aye Pagoda Road between Mingala Taungnyunt and Dagon Townships this morning. Next, the mayor looked into resurfacing of Kohmin Kohchin Avenue in Bahan Township which is 1240 feet long and 16 feet wide, upgrading of Innya Myaing road section which is 1650 feet long and 20 feet wide and progress of tarmacking of Bayintnaung road section in Kamaryut Township which is 4910 feet long and 72 feet wide. — MNA

IT exhibition to mark 10th Anniversary of MCF and its associations to be on 7-9 Nov

YANGON, 4 Nov — An IT exhibition will be held at Myanmar Info Tech Building in Hline Township here from 7 to 9 November in commemoration of 10th Anniversary of Myanmar Computer Federation, Myanmar Computer Scientist Association, Myanmar Computer Industry Association, Software Solution, IT and IT Education Shows will be displayed at first-ever exhibition in Myanmar. Respective scholars will give talks on economic, management and IT. Fulltime attendees will be presented certificates and any one may take part in discussions.

For detailed information, enthusiasts may contact Myanmar Info Tech Building (Ph: 652276). — MNA

Supreme Court holds ceremony to present prizes and cash assistance

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Nov — Supreme Court held a ceremony to present prizes and cash assistance to outstanding offspring of service personnel of the Supreme Court and various courts at the meeting hall of the court, here this morning. Chief Justice U Aung Toe made a speech on the occasion and presented a prize to a six-distinction winner for 2007-2008 academic year. Deputy Chief Justice U Khin Maung Latt and judges gave away prizes to outstanding students and directors-general, prizes and cash assistance to students who stood first and second.

On behalf of the distinction winners, six-distinction winner Ma Ngwe Hnin Cho spoke words of thanks.

Talks on milling technology given

YANGON, 4 Nov — With the aim of promoting the quality of Myanmar paddy Myanmar Rice Mill Co Ltd and Buhler Co Ltd organized talks on milling technology at the Myanmar Rice Millers Association in UMFCCCI Office Tower on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Road in Lanmadaw Township here yesterday. Chairman of MRMA and Produce Trading and Marketing of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading and General Secretary U Thaung Win of MRMA gave talks on milling technology.

Next, those present viewed latest model rice processing machines of Buhler displayed at MRMA Office on Themybu Road. — MNA

Tiny fungi may have sex while infecting humans

SCIENCE DAILY, 3 Nov — A fungus called microsporidia that causes chronic diarrhea in AIDS patients, organ transplant recipients and travelers has been identified as a member of the family of fungi that have been discovered to reproduce sexually. A team at Duke University Medical Center has proven that microsporidia are true fungi and that this species most likely undergoes a form of sexual reproduction during infection of humans and other host animals.

The findings could help develop effective treatments against these common global pathogens and may help explain their most virulent attacks. “Microsporidian infections are hard to treat because until now we haven’t known a lot about this common pathogen,” says Soo Chan Lee, Ph.D., lead author and a postdoctoral researcher in the Duke Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology. “Up to 50 percent of AIDS patients have microsporidial infections and develop chronic diarrhea.”

Internet
Kayah State in position to produce human resources locally

(from page 1)

During the trip, I noticed that Kayah State has begun to enjoy development considerably due to the fact that peace and stability has been restored throughout the region.

In particular, the state has made a good headway in the education sector. The youth of the region have enjoyed easy access to opportunities to pursue education at the unprecedented level, as evidenced by Loikaw University, Technological University (Loikaw), and University for Computer Studies (Loikaw).

The study tour also covered the universities in Loikaw. Loikaw University is located in Daw-U Kha Ward, Loikaw, and has an area of 158.63 acres.

Previously, it was just a degree college and had to hold its convocations at Taunggyi University. It was upgraded from Loikaw College in 2002, and from Loikaw Degree College in 2003. Its main building was inaugurated in 2007.

Twelve major subjects are prescribed in the educational institution. This year, 737 students are attending day classes and 1858 students are pursuing distance education, totaling 2595. Now, research on the subjects concerned is being carried out.

Its first-ever convocation took place in 2005, and its fourth convolution, in February 2008. So far, 234 students have got their degrees from the facility. It is conducting its first-ever master’s course for the first semester for the 2008-2009 academic year, and it is planning to confer M.Sc degree in the fifth convolution.

Rector U Sein Oo of Loikaw University said, “The government has opened universities here, so local students are now in a position to pursue higher education in universities of their own state. Faculty members are competent and most of them are doctorate or master’s degree holders. So, qualified local students can embrace the opportunities to join post-degree courses and master’s courses in their own state at minimum costs. So, we are grateful to the government. And it is an honour for the state. Students are pleased to attend their classes here.”

Then, we proceeded to University for Computer Studies which is located at the site, east of the circular road of Loikaw and has an area of 36.52 acres.

With the aim of producing human resources including IT experts, it was upgraded to a university on 20 January 2007. In 2007-2008 academic year, 123 youths are attending courses including post-graduate diploma course, under-graduate diploma course, Computer Science course, Computer Technology course, computer Science (Honours) course and Computer Technology (Honours) course.

Stakes were driven on 5 June 2008 to build a three-storey building on the campus.

The number of IT experts in the state is on the increase at higher rate owing to University of Computer Studies (Loikaw). Now, Loikaw has seen several Internet centres.

University of Technology (Loikaw) is situated east of Ywadanshei Village with an area of 87.46 acres. It was just a technical high school in 1982. It was upgraded to the Government Technical Institute in 1998, to the Government Technological College in 2001, and to the University of Technology in 2007.

It conducts civil engineering course, electrical power engineering course, electronic engineering course and mechanical engineering course for sharpening the skills of engineers, enabling local youths to have equal opportunities to engineering studies, and producing human resources.

This academic year, 353 youths are going to the university, which has so far held its fourth convolution.

The main building, which will be able to hold 3000 students, is due to be opened soon.

The above-mentioned facts serve as a testimony to unprecedented development in the education sector Kayah State enjoys. In other words, the state has started to enjoy the fruitful results of the efforts the government is exerting without any discrimination against or in favour of hilly regions or the main land, hilly regions or the plain, and rural or urban areas for equitable development of all parts of the Union.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin:
4-11-2008
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The lecture room of University of Computer Studies (Loikaw) in Kayah State.

Rector
U Sein Oo
of Loikaw University.

Loikaw University.
American school in Syria obeys order to close

DAMASCUS, 4 Nov.—An American school in Damascus closed its doors and told students to go home Monday after the Syrian government ordered it shut down in response to a deadly US cross-border raid near the Iraqi border. A voice message on the school’s answering machine said the Damascus Community School was closed to comply with the government’s decision. Students and teachers were seen leaving the school grounds Monday afternoon. The closure order came two days after Syria said US troops in four helicopters attacked a building inside Syria near the Iraqi border. Washington hasn’t formally acknowledged the raid, but US officials say the target was a top al-Qaida in Iraq figure.

The school and the cultural centre, which are linked to the US Embassy, cater to a small American community in the Syrian capital and other foreign residents. The Syrian government had demanded the cultural centre close immediately and the school close by Thursday.

The students came to school as usual Monday but said they were told by the school’s administration to leave. No reason was immediately given. One student said they were told by the school’s administration to pack up their books leave the building immediately.

American school in Syria obeys order to close

421,000 people poisoned by snakebites each year

HONG KONG, 4 Nov.—More than 400,000 people are poisoned by snakebites worldwide each year and 20,000 of them die, with most cases occurring in the poorest countries, researchers say.

In an article published in US-based open access Public Library of Science Medicine, the researchers said the burden from snakebites was highest in South and Southeast Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

Data on snakebites is far from comprehensive as most of them happen in places with poor healthcare systems and where record-keeping is generally poor or non-existent. For this study, the researchers trawled through 3,256 published articles and extracted data on 68 countries. They said, according to a conservative estimate, there are 421,000 cases of envenoming, or venom delivered through biting, each year and which lead to at least 20,000 deaths.—Internet

Auto sales hit 25-year low, Europe outlook bleak

DETROIT, 4 Nov.—US auto sales plunged 32 percent in October to lows unseen in a quarter-century led by a 43 percent drop at General Motors Corp (GM.N) in a collapse that hit every major automaker and offered little sign that the industry has hit bottom in its largest market.

Hurt by tighter terms on auto financing by skittish banks and finance companies and the worsening economy, US auto sales fell to their weakest monthly level since February 1983, according to sales data released on Monday. The decline in US October sales represented the first results since word emerged last month of merger talks between GM and Chrysler LLC and seemed certain to strengthen calls for a new government aid package for the embattled US industry.

Win Mu Tin MA, HGP, D.B.L (for Eccles & Lee Patent Attorneys and Trademark Attorneys, (Hong Kong) P.O. Box 60,Yangon Dated: 5 November 2008

Gunmen kill Mexican police chief in border city

MEXICO CITY, 4 Nov.—Gunmen killed a state police chief in the border city of Nogales and three police detectives in central Guanajuato state, as a wave of drug-related violence batters Mexican security forces, authorities said Monday. In Tijuana, across the border from San Diego, authorities on Monday found the bullet-riddled corpses of six men in a vegetable warehouse along with more than 100 shell casings from assault rifles.

The bodies of three other men were found in a sport utility vehicle on a Tijuana street on Sunday. All had apparently been shot to death. On Sunday night, Sonora state police chief Juan Manuel Pues was found shot dead as he entered a hotel with his bodyguard and other officers, according to a statement from the state investigative police office. Pues had just finished directing police operations in the city, the statement said.—Internet
Study cut coffee intake for healthier baby

**BEIJING, 4 Nov —** Pregnant women should keep consumption of coffee, tea and cola to a minimum, said a study published on Monday that sees a link between caffeine intake and low birth weight among babies.

Researchers of Britain’s Food Standards Agency (FSA) recruited 2,635 women at between eight and 12 weeks of pregnancy, asked them about their dietary habits and checkups.

Women who took between 100 and 199 milligrams of caffeine per day faced a 20 percent increased risk of having a baby with a relatively lower birth weight compared with counterparts whose intake was less than 100 mg per day.

For those who had an intake of 200-299 mg per day, the risk rose to 40 percent, and for those over 300 mg per day, it was 50 percent.

Birth weight is a widely used benchmark of health, especially for diabetes and heart disease.

An average cup of coffee contains about 100 mg of caffeine and tea about half this amount, although the concentration varies according to the strength of brew and the brand of the product.

**File photo show a ship-shaped solar power generator by Sanyo Electric Co that can generate 530,000 kilowatts of electricity annually with 5,000 solar cell panels, is photographed upon its completion in the village of Anpachi, central Japan. Weekend reports Panasonic Corp may acquire rival Sanyo sent share prices of the Japanese electronics makers soaring in Tokyo on 4 Nov, 2008 as speculation grew for a bit of bright news for a gloomy machinery market.**

India’s moon mission enters lunar space

**BANGALORE, 4 Nov —** India’s first unmanned moon mission entered lunar space early Tuesday as part of its final journey this week into the moon’s orbit, a top space official said.

The Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft was launched with an Indian-built rocket on 22 October from the country’s southeastern coast.

“The operation to put Chandrayaan into lunar space went off very well,” S Satish, director of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) told AFP.

The spacecraft is now 1,000 kilometres (600 miles) from the moon, enabling its terrain-mapping camera to shoot pictures of it.

Scientists are preparing for the next major stage to enable the spacecraft to enter lunar orbit on Saturday and position itself about 100 kilometres from the moon’s surface.

Once the mission is in the lunar orbit, it will stabilise in about a week, after which it will send a probe instrument to the moon’s surface.

Chandrayaan carries 11 payloads — five from India and others from abroad. During a two-year orbital mission, it will provide a detailed map of the mineral, chemical and topographical characteristics of the moon’s surface.

**A rocket carrying India’s first lunar probe Chandrayaan-1 blasts off from north of Chennai on 22 Oct. Internet**

New research finds markers for esophageal cancer before it develops

**WASHINGTON, 4 Nov —** US researchers have identified genetic proteins, also known as biomarkers, capable of distinguishing changes at the microscopic level that can signal a precancerous condition in the esophagus.

These markers may help identify patients who are likely to progress to esophageal cancer. This first of its kind study is published Monday in the journal Clinical Cancer Research.

Barrett’s esophagus (BE) is a common precancerous condition of the lower esophagus. The presence of BE increases the risk of developing esophageal adenocarcinoma (EAC), the most common form of esophageal cancer.

The progression of BE to EAC occurs in a series of steps from low-grade dysplasia (LGD) to high-grade dysplasia (HGD).

Approximately half of all patients who experience HGD will progress to EAC. Currently morphological analysis of esophageal biopsies by light microscopy is considered the gold standard for identifying HGD, thereby guiding a treatment plan for these patients.

**Plastic bags kill croc found in Australian tourist zone**

**SYDNEY, 4 Nov —** A crocodile which was captured after menacing tourist beaches near Australia’s World Heritage-listed Great Barrier Reef has died from eating too many plastic bags, officials said.

Queensland’s Environmental Protection Agency announced Sunday that the crocodile died a day after it was captured near Magnetic Island, close to the world famous coral reef which runs along Australia’s northeastern coast.

The agency said 25 plastic shopping and garbage bags had been found inside the animal, along with a plastic wine cooler bag and a rubber float. ‘‘Because the material had compacted solidly in its stomach it was unable to digest food,’’ it said in a statement, adding that no animal would have survived with that much plastic compressed into its gut.

**A crocodile which was captured after menacing tourist beaches near Australia’s World Heritage-listed Great Barrier Reef has died from eating too many plastic bags. Internet**

**Frozen mice cloned by Japanese scientists**

**BEIJING, 4 Nov —** Japanese scientists have cloned mice whose bodies were frozen for as long 16 years, according to the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences published on Monday. Mouse cloning expert Teruhiko Wakayama and colleagues at the Center for Developmental Biology, at Japan’s RIKEN research institute in Yokohama, managed to clone the mice even though their cells had burst. “Thus, nuclear transfer techniques could be used to ‘resurrect’ animals or maintain valuable genomic stocks from tissues frozen for prolonged periods without any cryopreservation,” they wrote in the study.

Wakayama’s team used the classic nuclear transfer technique to make their mouse clones. This involves taking the nucleus out of an egg cell and replacing it with the nucleus of an ordinary cell from the animal to be cloned.

When done with the right chemical or electric trigger, this starts the egg dividing as if it had been fertilized by a sperm.

“Cloning animals by nuclear transfer provides an opportunity to preserve endangered mammalian species,” they wrote.

**Frozen mice cloned by Japanese scientists**

**Plastic bags kill croc found in Australian tourist zone**

**Polluted beach in the popular Jumeirah area in the Gulf Emirate of Dubai, photographed on 25 Oct. Internet**

**Study cut coffee intake for healthier baby**

**New research finds markers for esophageal cancer before it develops**

**Frozen mice cloned by Japanese scientists**
Battle weary Nadal pulls out of Shanghai Masters tennis

**SPORTS**

**Battle weary Nadal pulls out of Shanghai Masters tennis**

**MADRID, 4 Nov**

World number one Rafael Nadal of Spain said on Monday that he had pulled out of the Shanghai Masters and has represented Argentina in the 2006 World Cup quarter-final penalty shootout. The 22-year-old, who had to pull out of his Paris Masters quarter-final on Friday with a right knee injury, said it had been “a long and difficult year” which had left him without “the freshness needed to play at the top level of the game on these last events.”

“I want to recover and be ready for the important Davis Cup final with my country that will be played in Mar del Plata, Argentina. That is also another reason for not coming to Shanghai,” he added.

Spain’s world number one Rafael Nadal, seen here in October 2008, said on Monday that he had pulled out of the Shanghai Masters and his place would be taken by France’s Gilles Simon.—INTERNET

**No friendly farewell for Lehmann**

**BERLIN, 4 Nov** — Former German international goalkeeper Jens Lehmann will not have his wish granted of making a nostalgia final appearance in the friendly with England here on November 19, German coach Joachim Low announced on Monday.

The 38-year-old Stuttgart guardian had said he wished to have one final appearance at the ground where he produced one of his finer performances in his 61 caps when he saved two Argentinian penalties in the 2006 World Cup quarter-final penalty shootout.

However, while Loew said he could see why Lehmann had wanted one final appearance and against a country where he played for five years with Arsenal there were bigger issues at stake.

“We have to use our friendly matches as a way of giving our young goalkeepers more experience at international level,” explained Loew.

“It would of course have been great for Jens to once more don the national team shirt.”

Germany’s goalkeeper Jens Lehmann, seen here in May 2008, will not have his wish granted of making a nostalgia final appearance in the friendly with England here on 19 Nov, German coach Joachim Low announced on Monday.—INTERNET

**Hands off Aguero, Atletico coach tells City**

**LIVERPOOL, 4 Nov** — Atletico Madrid coach Javier Aguirre has warned Manchester City that all the money in the world will not buy them Sergio Aguero.

The 20-year-old Argentine striker has emerged as a top target for Mark Hughes as the City boss prepares to spend big in the January transfer window.

Aguero has been a revelation in La Liga, netting 31 times in 84 appearances since joining Atletico Madrid in 2006 and has represented Argentina at senior level 14 times.

But Aguirre, who will field Aguero against City’s Premier League rivals Liverpool in Tuesday’s Champions League group game at Anfield, insisted the player was staying put.

Atletico Madrid manager Javier Aguirre, seen here addressing the press at Anfield in Liverpool, has warned Manchester City that all the money in the world will not buy them Sergio Aguero.—INTERNET

**Edwards wins second straight race**

**FORTWORTH, 4 Nov** — Taking risks is a whole lot easier when you believe you don’t have much to lose.

Carl Edwards squeezed a victory out of his last tank of gas, racing the last 69 laps of Sunday’s Dickies 500 at Texas Motor Speedway without pitting.

And, this time, series leader Jimmie Johnson ran out of magic.

The combination of Edwards’ successful gamble and Johnson’s 15-place finish chopped a big chunk off what had been a daunting 183-point lead for Johnson heading into the Texas race. Edwards trails by 106 points with two races remaining.—INTERNET

**Maradona joins exclusive footballing club**

**PAREL, 4 Nov** — When Diego Maradona was named Argentina coach last week he joined an exclusive club of legendary stars who have moved from playing for to managing their national teams.

Michel Platini, Franz Beckenbauer, Marco van Basten, Marco Zagallo and Kevin Keegan are some of the big names to have swapped the field of dreams for the dugout.

And while some have made the switch effortlessly, others have found out the hard way that success on the pitch doesn’t necessarily assure success at the side of it.—INTERNET

**Williams sisters face most dreaded tennis obstacle**

**Doha, 4 Nov** — Serena and Venus Williams, who have qualified together for only the second time for the WTA Championships, find themselves with their most dreaded obstacle as they seek to reach the final of the women’s tour climax.

The highest profile sisters in sport are keen to show that, not only are they the best players of this decade, but they are in the process of joining the pantheon of all-time greats.

But they have landed in the same group – which means they must play each other once this week (Nov 4-9), and will have to do it twice if they are to make it an all-Williams, all American final next Sunday. “Oh, we’re always in the same half of the draw, so we’re used to it now,” shrugged Serena, injecting a little humour as she tried to convince everyone it was no longer a big issue.—INTERNET
Three killed in Austria plane crash

VIENNA, 4 Nov — Three people were killed when their small aircraft crashed Sunday evening in a southern Austrian forest.

The cause of the accident is still unknown, said an official from the state of Styria. The plane came down near the state’s capital city of Graz.

He said the weather was fine with good visibility at the time of the crash and the technical condition of the plane was also quite good, as preliminary investigations of the plane’s wreckage had found no malfunction.

The PA 34 aircraft crashed into a forest south of Graz and exploded, killing all three on board.

The plane being flown by a 57-year-old entrepreneur, who was accompanied by his daughter, 32, and a friend, 39.

Witnesses said that the plane plummeted from the sky at high speed, and had tried to pull up before crashing. This is the second crash in the last two weeks in Austria.—MNA/Xinhua

Women lead men in bacteria, hands down

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov—Wash your hands, folks, especially you ladies. A new study found that women have a greater variety of bacteria on their hands than men do. And everybody has more types of bacteria than the researchers expected to find.

“One thing that really is astonishing is the variability between individuals, and also between hands on the same individual,” said University of Colorado biochemistry assistant professor Rob Knight, a co-author of the paper.

“The sheer number of bacteria species detected on the hands of the study participants was a big surprise, and so was the greater diversity of bacteria we found on the hands of women,” added lead researcher Noah Fierer, an assistant professor in Colorado's department of ecology and evolutionary biology.

The researchers aren’t sure why women harbored a greater variety of bacteria than men, but Fierer suggested it may have to do with the acidiy of the skin. Knight said men generally have more acidic skin than women.

WEATHER

Tuesday, 4 November, 2008

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been fairly widespread in Shan State, isolated in Chin, Rakhine and Kayin States, Yangon and Ayeyawady Divisions, weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (4°C) below November average temperatures in Chin State, upper Sagaing and Magway and Bago Divisions, (3°C) to (4°C) above November average temperatures in Kachin, Shan and Mon States, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and about November average temperatures in the remaining States and Divisions. The significant night temperature was Hakha (4°C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Pinlaung (1.18) inches, Kentung (1.14) inches, Thanbyuzayat (2.03) inches and Pathein (0.57) inch. Maximum temperature on 3-11-2008 was 89°F. Minimum temperature on 4-11-2008 was 63°F. Relative humidity at (09-30) hours MST on 4-11-2008 was 79%. Total sunshine hours on 3-11-2008 was (6.60) hrs approx. Rainfall on 4-11-2008 was (Nil) at Mandalay, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (109.02) inches at Mandalay, (120.71) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.79) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was recorded at Northwest (14.30) hours MST at 3-11-2008.

Bay influence: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea, East Central Bay and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 5th November 2008: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Shan State, isolated in Chin, Rakhine, Mon and Kayin States, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (60%). State of the sea: Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Southern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 5-11-2008: Partly cloudy.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 5-11-2008: Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (40%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 5-11-2008: Partly cloudy.
Kyaukdaga harvests paddy with machinery

**Yangon, 4 Nov**—Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Southern Command Brig-Gen Hla Min on 25 October inspected teak plantations of National Resources Development Co Ltd at Aingtonkun Reserve Forest in Kyaukdaga Township, Bago Division.

The commander viewed harvesting and winnowing of paddy with the use of farm equipment produced by Bago Division Agricultural Mechanization Department at Field No. 426 of Farmer U Lay Win in Pyinmalwin village-tract of Dai U Township.

Next, the commander presented first prize to Bago Township in paddy harvesting and winnowing contest.

On 27 October, the commander presented medals, certificates and cash awards to Bago Basic Education High School No. 3 which stood first in pass rate in matriculation examination for 2008 of Bago Division, two outstanding students who got highest marks in subject and arts combinations and nine six-distinction winners at City Hall in Bago.

Next, Vice-Chairman of Bago Division PDC Brig-Gen Sein Myint and officials also awarded schools, outstanding students and distinction winners. —MNA

**Commander Brig-Gen Hla Min awards an outstanding teacher in Bago.**

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Manhsaung Bridge in Tiddim Township contributes to swift commodity flow

**Article: Nu Nu Yi & Aye Thanda Thein; Photo: Myanma Alin**

Manhsaung Bridge across Manipur River built on Tiddim-Reed Lake Road in Chin State.—(See page 7)

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Brown set to miss Celtic clash, James Chester in Man United squad

Manchester, 4 Nov—Defender Wes Brown looks set to sit out Manchester United’s Champions League group game against Scottish giants Celtic on Wednesday.

The England international missed training on Monday and Tuesday after having been out of the Red Devils’ last two games with an ankle problem. As such, it is unlikely United boss Sir Alex Ferguson will take chance on Brown’s fitness especially with experienced Gary Neville and young Brazilian talent Rafael Da Silva being the options.—Internet

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Playing a game shows how personalities evolved

Bristol, 4 Nov—Why do some of us always do the right thing while others only seem to be out for themselves? Research by the universities of Exeter and Bristol offers a new explanation as to why such a wide range of personality traits has evolved in humans and other social species.

Game theory is used to predict the behaviour of individuals when making choices that depend on the choices of others. First developed as a tool for understanding economic behaviour, game theory is increasingly used in many diverse fields, ranging from biology and psychology to sociology and philosophy.—Internet