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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

Four political objectives

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

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Nov—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe saw off Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport at 10 a.m today.

Prime Minister General Thein Sein left here by special flight to attend the 4th Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Summit and 3rd Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) to be held in Hanoi of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Also present at the airport to see off the Prime Minister were Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, SPDC member General Thura Shwe Mann of the Ministry of Defence, Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thih Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Lt-Gen Myint Hlaing, Maj-Gen Maung Shein, Maj-Gen Ohn Myint, Maj-Gen Min Aung Hlaing, Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung and Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Deputy Minister for Transport Col Nyan Tun Aung, senior military officers, Director-General Col Kyaw Kyaw Win of the SPDC Office, departmental heads, Charge d’Affaires ai of the Vietnamese Embassy Mr Vu Van Minh and officials.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyan Win, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development U Soe Tha, Director-General Col Thant Shin of the Government Office and departmental heads.

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Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport — MNA

Senior General Than Shwe shakes hands with Prime Minister General Thein Sein before the Prime Minister’s departure for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at Nay Pyi Taw — MNA

MNA

Senior General Than Shwe sees off Prime Minister General Thein Sein at Nay Pyi Taw Airport, before departure for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to attend 4th Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Summit and 3rd Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) to be held in Hanoi of Vietnam — MNA

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**Exploit marine resources most efficiently**

Fishing is one of the major industries that contribute to the economic progress of the country. The second annual general meeting of Myanmar Sea Fishery Entrepreneurs Association of Myanmar Fisheries Federation of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries was held at MFF the other day.

The ministry is implementing the tasks on boosting production of fish and meat, sufficiency of local consumption, earning foreign exchange by exporting the surplus of fish, making investment in fish and meat sector and raising the socio-economic standard of fish and prawn producers under the leadership of the government.

Myanmar Fisheries Federation is ensuring sufficiency of local consumption and making efforts for earning foreign exchange through export.

With the development of fishing technology, export of fish and meat can be increased on a large scale. The ministry is now trying to earn 850 million US dollars from marine products in 2008-09.

As Myanmar is rich in marine resources, it is necessary for fishery entrepreneurs to exploit marine resources making extensive use of modern technology and to disseminate modern fishing methods among them.

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**People’s Desire**

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

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**Ministry of Industry-2 organizes English Proficiency Course**

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 Nov — Jointly organized by the Ministry of Industry-2 and Europer Academy, the opening of English Proficiency Course was held at the meeting hall of the ministry here yesterday.

It was attended by Minister for Industry-2 Vice-Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, the deputy minister, officials and trainees. The minister delivered an address on the occasion.

A total of 30 trainees are taking the course.

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**UMFCCI meets Russian guests**

Yangon, 5 Nov — Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry Vice-Presidents U Win Aung, U Aung Lwin and U Mya Han, General-Secretary U Sein Win Hlaing, Joint-Secretary-1 Dr Maung Maung Lay, central executive, executives and responsible persons of the brother associations met with four-member delegation led by Special Advisor to the Minister of Trade and Services of the Government of Moscow Mr Kurochkin Vasily Ivanovich of the Russian Federation at UMFCCI office on 28 October.

At the meeting, they cordially discussed matters relating to trade promotion between two countries, investment and business opportunities, export of marine products, agricultural product and fruits and imports of fertilizers, construction materials, aluminium and metals.

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**Tourist Maps of Myanmar (TMM-21) in circulation**

Yangon, 5 Nov — Under the supervision of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the complementary copies of Tourist Maps of Myanmar (TMM-21) have been distributed recently for promotion of the tourism industry.

Tourist Maps of Myanmar (TMM-21) include the scale map of Myanmar, the newly edited maps of Yangon, Mandalay, PymOol,wn, Bagan, MraukU, Taunggyi, Inlay, Kyaukhtiy, Ngapali, Ngwehsaung and Chaungtha.

The complementary copies of map will be delivered to airports, hotels, restaurants, NGOs, embassies and INGOs, Myanmar embassies abroad and international tourism organizations.

Local entrepreneurs may participate in the sponsorship to distribute the copies of map to the international organizations.

The map may be taken out from Myanmar Tourism Services(Sule) or DPS map production, No 165-167, first floor, 35th Street, Kyauktada Township, dialing 951204020, 204200, Tel/: Fax: 951245230, during office hours.
WASHINGTON, 5 Nov—Barack Obama swept to victory as the nation’s first black president on Tuesday night in an electoral college landslide that overcame racial barriers as old as America itself.

“Change has come,” he told a jubilant hometown Chicago crowd estimated at nearly a quarter-million people.

The son of a black father from Kenya and a white mother from Kansas, the Democratic senator from Illinois sealed his historic triumph by defeating Republican Sen. John McCain in a string of wins in hard-fought battleground states — Ohio, Florida, Iowa and more. He captured Virginia, too, the first candidate of African-American descent to win a once-solidly Republican state.

“More than 47 years ago, my father came to this country because of the pull of the American promise,” Obama said. “I came to believe that America is a place where anything is possible for anyone, if you are willing to work no matter how long or hard you have to work.”

On a night for Democrats to savor, they not only elected Obama the nation’s 44th president but padded their majorities in the House and Senate, and in January will control both the White House and Congress for the first time since 1994.

First aid is administered to wounded men in hospital following a bomb explosion at a bus station, in Baghdad, Iraq, on 4 Nov, 2008. Internet

Hamas fires rockets at Israel after 6 killed

Gaza City (Gaza Strip), 5 Nov—Hamas militants pounded southern Israel with a barrage of rockets on Wednesday, hours after Israeli forces killed six gunmen in a fresh bout of violence that threatened to unravel a five-month-old truce that has brought relief to both Gaza and southern Israel.

The clashes began late Tuesday after the Israeli armed forces burst into Gaza to destroy what the army said was a tunnel being dug near the border to abduct Israeli troops. Despite the outbreak of violence, both Israeli authorities and officials with Gaza’s Hamas government said they wanted to restore the calm that has largely prevailed over the past five months. After the Israeli intervention, Hamas gunmen battled Israeli forces and Gaza residents reported the sound of explosions, gunshots and helicopter fire. One Hamas fighter was killed, prompting a wave of mortar fire at nearby Israeli targets.

The violence was the worst since Israel and Hamas agreed to an Egyptian-mediated truce in June.

Iran warns US military after Obama win

Tehran, 5 Nov—Iran warned U.S. forces in Iraq on Wednesday that it would respond to any violation of Iranian airspace, a message analysts said seemed directed at the new US president-elect more than neighbouring American troops.

The Iranian army statement, reported by state radio, followed a cross-border raid last month by U.S. forces into Syria, a move that was condemned by Damascus and Tehran.

But an Iranian politician said the timing suggested it was directed at Barack Obama, who won on Tuesday’s US vote, more than the US military, and might reflect concern by hardliners in Iran who he said thrived on confrontation with Washington.

Obama has said he would toughen sanctions on Iran but has also held out the possibility of direct talks to resolve rows, which include a dispute over Tehran’s nuclear ambitions.

Afghan villagers allege airstrikes kill civilians

Kabul, 5 Nov—Two Afghan villagers are alleging that dozens of women and children attending a wedding party in southern Afghanistan have been killed or wounded by airstrikes.

The two Afghan witnesses told The Associated Press that dozens of women and children had died. They are in the main hospital in Kandahar city alongside wounded relatives.

A wounded Palestinian is seen in hospital during an Israeli army raid, near Deir El Bahlah in the central Gaza Strip, early 5 Nov, 2008. —INTERET

Pakistan army kills 15 militants

Kunar, 5 Nov—A Pakistani government official says an army air strike has destroyed a suspected militant training facility and killed fifteen insurgents on the Pakistani side of the Afghan border.

Jamil Khan, the No 2 representative of government in the semi-autonomous Bajar tribal region, said on Wednesday the overnight raid flattened several buildings near the village of Damadola. Pakistani security forces have been fighting militants in various parts of the border region since August, but attacks in Damadola are rare. The army says it has killed over 1,500 militants in Bajar since August.

American forces have fired missiles at suspected hide-outs of al-Qaeda’s No 2 leader Ayman al-Zawahiri in the Damadolo region in recent years.

War deployments make kids more aggressive

Chicago, 5 Nov—Preschoolers with a parent away at war were more likely to show aggression than other young children in military families, according to the first published research on how the very young react to wartime deployment. Hitting, biting and hyperactivity — “the behaviors parents really notice” — were more frequent when a parent was deployed, said lead author Dr Molinda Chartrand, an active duty pediatrician in the US Air Force. The study, which was small and included fewer than 200 children, adds to previous evidence of the stress that deployment puts on families.

Last year, a study of almost 1,800 Army families worldwide found that reports of child abuse and neglect were 42 percent higher during times when the soldier-parent was deployed.
Iraq: No hasty change in US policy with Obama win

BAGHDAD, 5 Nov — Many in Iraq said on Wednesday they don’t expect any immediate shift in US policy toward their country when Barack Obama takes over as the new US president, despite his calls for a complete withdrawal of US troops within 16 months.

But top Iraqi officials said they do recognize the new president-elect’s perspective on the war in Iraq differs greatly from current US President George W. Bush.

“We don’t expect any change to happen overnight or any hasty change in US policy and commitment toward Iraq,” Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari told Al-Arabiya TV moments after Obama claimed victory over Republican John McCain.

But he acknowledged that Obama “will not have the same enthusiasm and momentum for this situation” in Iraq as Bush.

Some Iraqis, however, are eager to see an end to a US military presence they consider foreign occupation.

US exit polls showed that only one in 10 American voters called the Iraq war their top concern when making their presidential choice, reflecting expectations Obama will focus more on domestic issues and the economy once he takes over.

Nortel could cut up to 5,000 jobs next week

TORONTO, 5 Nov — Nortel Networks Corp could shed between 3,000 and 5,000 jobs when it details its latest restructuring plan next week, analysts said on Tuesday.

The company, North America’s biggest maker of telephone gear, said in September that a weak economy and spending cutbacks by the telecom companies that buy its equipment will lead to lower sales. It said these factors will necessitate new job cuts, but it did not specify a number.

Nortel’s payroll stands at about 32,000 — down from a peak of more than 90,000 in 2000 before the technology bubble burst.

It announced in February that it would cut 2,100 more jobs, but it was not clear how many of those layoffs have been implemented already.

The Toronto-based company is set to report its third-quarter results on 10 November and analysts said it will also likely issue a more detailed update on the latest restructuring.

While Nortel needs to rein in its cost base, it is also limited in the number of workers it can cut at one time, said Ed Snyder, principal analyst at Charter Equity Research.

“You run into structural issues when you cut off too many people at once,” he said. “It causes a huge disruption.”

Cigarette sets German bus ablaze, 20 dead

BERLIN, 5 Nov — Twenty people have been killed by a fire on board a bus on a German motorway set off by a passenger smoking in the toilet, police said on Wednesday.

In Germany’s deadliest such incident in 16 years, the coach burst into flames at 8:40 p.m (1940 GMT) on Tuesday on a motorway just outside the northern city of Hanover. The driver quickly pulled over, but in the panic to escape the inferno rapidly engulfing the bus only around a third of the mostly elderly passengers managed to get out. Twelve people were injured, police said, several of whom were being treated for serious burns in a nearby hospital. Police said that it was not the result of a crash with another vehicle but that it had been caused by one of the passengers smoking in the bus toilet who failed to extinguish properly his cigarette.

Bomb explodes at Swedish hotel, 1 injured

STOCKHOLM, 5 Nov — A homemade bomb exploded on Tuesday at a hotel in the central Swedish city of Vasteras, seriously injuring one person, police said.

Police spokesman Per Stromback described the bomb as a homemade device that used gunpowder.

He said it went off in the kitchen of a hotel near the Vasteras airport just after 9 pm (2000 GMT), causing a small fire that was quickly put out.

The building was evacuated, Stromback said. News agency TT reported that the injured person was a student trying to build a bomb in the kitchen of the hotel, which was being used as a dormitory for students at a local high school.

Mexico’s interior secretary killed in plane crash

MEXICO CITY, 5 Nov — A small plane crashed in a wealthy Mexico City neighborhood on Tuesday, killing the nation’s powerful interior secretary and at least seven others, and setting dozens of cars ablaze.

Juan Camilo Mourino was one of President Felipe Calderon’s closest advisers and has been embroiled in scandal since taking office in the midst of Mexico’s violent fight against drug cartels. He was in charge of the country’s security.

“His death causes me enormous pain,” Calderon told a news conference: “I ask all Mexicans that they don’t allow any event, no matter how difficult or painful, to weaken them in the pursuit of a better Mexico.”

Presidential spokesman Max Cortazar said Mourino and a group of advisers were returning from an event in the city of San Luis Potosi when the plane went down. Officials say the crash appeared to be an accident. The Learjet 24 set fire to about two dozen vehicles on a street in the posh Lomas de Chapultepec neighborhood in an area filled with tall office buildings.

Television footage showed rescue authorities fighting flames and keeping spectators away. Officials evacuated about 1,800 people from area offices.

Mayor Marcelo Ebrard said all those aboard the plane were killed and that more people may have died on the ground.

Firefighters try to douse the flames after a small aircraft crashed during rush hour in Mexico City on 4 Nov, 2008. — Internet

The Learjet 24 set fire to about two dozen vehicles on a street in the posh Lomas de Chapultepec neighborhood in an area filled with tall office buildings.

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Mayor Marcelo Ebrard said all those aboard the plane were killed and that more people may have died on the ground.

A woman uses a Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co (PLDT) pay phone in Manila on 4 Nov, 2008. — Internet

Firefighters extinguish the fire on a bus on a motorway near Hanover in northern Germany. — Internet

An Iraqi man walks past a damaged car after two bombs exploded in al-Tahariyat Square, central Baghdad, Iraq, on 3 Nov, 2008. Two bombs, one of them hidden in a trash can, exploded in a central Baghdad square on Monday, killing six people and wounding 21 others, police said.

BCCL/INTERNET

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Vietnam, Cambodia vow to lift bilateral trade

HANOI, 5 Nov—Vietnamese and Cambodian prime ministers agreed here on Tuesday to raise bilateral trade to more than two billion US dollars by 2010, the official Vietnam News Agency reported.

The agreement was reached during talks between Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung and his Cambodian counterpart Hun Sen, who is on a two-day official visit in Vietnam. The two sides were unanimous in creating favorable conditions for cooperation on trade and service activities between two countries, the report said.

They have agreed to promote the exchange of visits by delegations at all levels to increase mutual understanding and give priorities to cooperation in human resources development, trade and investment, energy, mining, oil and gas, industrial crops and transport, the report said.

They also agreed to continue their close cooperation in security and defence, as well as the fight against terrorism, transnational crimes, smuggling, and drug and human trafficking.

The two sides reaffirmed their principle of preventing all hostile forces from causing the territory of either country to do harm to the other and undermining the bilateral friendly and cooperative ties.—Xinhua

Malaysia launches direct flight to Thailand’s Koh Samui

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 Nov—Firefly, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Malaysia Airlines, launched direct flight from Kuala Lumpur to Thai island Koh Samui, local media reported on Wednesday.

The service, four times a week, was launched recently with an inaugural flight by the airline’s new ATR72-500 turboprop aircraft. “We can now expect many first-time leisure travellers to Koh Samui from Kuala Lumpur, now that we are connecting the capital of Malaysia directly through this route,” Firefly head of communications and marketing Angelina Fernandez said.

“More people will be able to experience what Koh Samui has to offer. We are also honoured to be able to encourage the people of Thailand to visit Kuala Lumpur and Malaysia,” she said.

Xinhua

Foreign remittance inflow to Bd’sh hits new high

DIANA, 5 Nov—Bangladesh has received 7.4 billion US dollars in remittances from workers abroad so far this year, which has already crossed last year’s record figures, a top official said on Tuesday.

Foreign Adviser of the Bangladesh caretaker government Iftikhar Ahmed Chowdhury, who is also in charge of the Ministry of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment, disclosed told media on Tuesday.

“As of now, 7.4 billion US dollars has been received from them as against last year’s total figure of 6.6 billion US dollars, which was a record,” he said.

Employment of workers abroad is also rising as 765,000 have so far been cleared for jobs abroad this year whereas the number for the whole of 2007 was 832,000, which was also a record, he said.—Xinhua

45 killed in bus accident in north India

NEW DELHI, 5 Nov—Forty-five people were killed in a bus accident in Indian northern city Shimla on Tuesday, police said. The bus was coming to Shimla, the state capital of Himachal Pradesh, from Kumarsain Town when it fell into a 200-metre deep gorge.

Forty-five people were killed on the spot and five others were admitted to the hospital, a police official said, according to the Indo-Asian News Service.

The earlier report said at least 18 people, mostly women, were killed.

Police said 51 people were travelling in the bus when the accident took place. The condition of the injured is critical. One passenger is missing.

The rescue team had a tough time in extracting the victims from the bus, the report said. Himachal Pradesh’s authorities have reached the spot to oversee the rescue and relief operations.—Xinhua

Cross-border drug ring head arrested in Bucharest

Bucharest, 5 Nov—One Bucharest citizen, wanted for 13 years by Australian authorities under charges of running a international drug network, was arrested on Wednesday.

According to the police, Bucharest citizen Vasile T., aged 45, was apprehended by border police officers as he was trying to leave Bucharest.

Vasile T. has been wanted by Australian authorities under charges of running a network that organized at least 18 transports of cocaine from Latin America to Australia, the local Mediafax News Agency reported.

The man, together with two of his ‘under-bosses’ arrested on the same day, could serve a 25-year prison term, if found guilty.—Xinhua
Autism may be connected to increased rainfall

The researchers calculated average annual rainfall for California, Oregon and Washington State between 1987 and 1999, then looked at autism prevalence rates in the children growing up during this period. The study found autism rates were higher among children whose states experienced higher rainfall in their first three years. The rising rates of autism — up, by some measures, from one in 2,500 to one in 150, has been attributed mainly to improvements in the way doctors are able to recognize the disease, some scientists aruged. However, researchers from Cornell University disagreed, saying this should not exclude a factor which may be independ-ently increasing the number of children growing up with the condition.

China aircraft maker sells five self-developed jets to GE

ZHUAHAI, 5 NOV—China’s main aircraft maker has agreed to sell five ARJ21 jets with an option for 20 more to US conglomerate General Electric’s (GE N) aircraft leasing arm, in China’s first major overseas deal for the aircraft, with an estimated value of around $750 million.

China’s main aircraft maker, The Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (CACC), signed the deal with GE Commercial Aviation Services on Tuesday at the Zhuhai airshow in south China, they said in a joint statement. GE Commercial preliminary agreed in March with CACC to buy five ARJ21 jets with an option to buy another 20. CACC, which developed the ARJ21, was incorporated earlier this year after the merger of China’s two state aircraft makers AVIC I and AVIC II.—Internet

Audiuss teen tries “quickest way of getting arrested”

An Australian teenager was arrested breaking into a police station in the early hours of Monday, according to media reports.

Officers working in the back of the police station in a suburb of the southern city of Adelaide heard the front door glass being smashed and found the 16-year-old in the front hall. “A teenage boy has discovered the quickest way of getting arrested is to break into a police station,” South Australia state police said in a statement on its website. About 2,000 Australian dollars (1,340 US dollars) of damage was caused and the boy was denied bail, the statement said.

A police spokesman added the youth did not give a reason for his actions, and may have had “a bit too much to drink.”

Libyan leader seeks arms and energy in Belarus

MINSK, 5 NOV—Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi joined Belarus’ authoritarian president in lamenting US dominance of world affairs on Monday during a tour aimed at securing new weapons and energy deals in the former Soviet Union.

Gadhafi is on a trip to Belarus, Russia and Ukraine that appears aimed at spurring competition between the countries for the best terms on arms and trade deals while seeking to rekindle the Cold War ties his energy-rich nation had with the Soviet Union.

Gadhafi may also be trying to increase the competitive pressure on Western companies, which have been seeking trading opportunities in Libya since it emerged from international iso-lation five years ago.

Both Libya and Belarus have faced criticism from the US and other Western countries for alleged violations of human rights. “The world has become unipolar because violations of the balance of power,” Gadhafi said in the Belarusian capital. “Nobody observes the principles of the United Nations, all international norms are being violated.”

“Unipolar” is a term frequently used in Russia, China and elsewhere to criticize US foreign policies. “We, like you, think that the world should be multipolar,” Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko told Gadhafi.

Alligator to take the sky by storm

Russia has launched mass production of the Ka-52 strike helicopter nicknamed ‘the Alligator’. Based on the Ka-50 ‘Black Shark’, the new version is designed as a commander’s vehicle and has several features for combat coordination.

Ka-52s will be manufactured at the Progress factory in the city of Arsenyevsk in Russia’s Far East. The producer hopes up to 30 Alligators will be completed by 2012 and says the aircraft has great export potential. The series was launched 10 years behind the initial schedule. The Ka-52 made its maiden flight back in 1997, but lack of finance stopped it from production.

**Image Descriptions**

- **Autism may be connected to increased rainfall**
  - Text discussing the connection between rainfall and autism rates.

- **China aircraft maker sells five self-developed jets to GE**
  - Information about a deal between China and GE for aircraft sales.

- **Aussie teen tries “quickest way of getting arrested”**
  - Description of a teenage arrest.

- **Libyan leader seeks arms and energy in Belarus**
  - Details about Gadhafi’s trip to Belarus and energy deals.

- **Alligator to take the sky by storm**
  - News about the production of the Ka-52 helicopter for Russia.

**Images**

- **Paintings**
  - Description of paintings at the Old Masters Painting gallery in Dresden, Germany.

- **Brain slows at 40s, starts body decline**
  - Article discussing age-related changes in brain and body functions.

- **Woman survives blast probably started by TV remote**
  - Information about a woman’s survival following a blast possibly caused by an TV remote.

- **Blink and you’ll miss it**
  - Description of a quick event.

- **Alligator to take the sky by storm**
  - Illustration of an alligator flying.

- **Autism in the US**
  - Illustration of a bird.

- **Birds of a feather**
  - Illustration of birds.

- **Aussie teen tries “quickest way of getting arrested”**
  - Illustration of a teenager.

- **Woman survives blast probably started by TV remote**
  - Illustration of a woman.

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  - Illustration of a brain.

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- **Alligator to take the sky by storm**
  - Illustration of an alligator.
Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) for smooth and speedy transport

Article: Kyaw Win Aung

Nowadays, the government, the people and the Tatmadaw have been making harmonious efforts to construct roads for passing through mountains and to build bridges spanning rivers and creeks across the nation. As a result, road networks have been set up ensuring smooth transport from north to south and from east to west throughout the nation. Indeed, Mon State plays a key role in realizing the national economy of the State. The region has rice surplus in the agriculture sector. Moreover, remarkable progress has been achieved in cultivation of rubber in the State after setting an aim that Mon State must be a rubber state.

In Mon State, special project bridges such as Thebyu Creek Bridge, Attayan Bridge, Donthami Creek Bridge, Ye River Bridge and Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), which is the longest and largest one in the country, have been built. In addition, the 1,365 feet long Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) was inaugurated on 12 July 2008 contributing to more development of Mon State.

Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) was built four miles downstream the existing Sittoung Bridge (Theinzayat). Its upper structure is steel frame type and the bridge can withstand 60-ton loads of every vehicle.

The bridge is connected with two approach roads — 224.1 feet long approach road was constructed on Kyaikto bank and 783.6 feet long one on Waw bank. The bridge is 2,392.7 feet long and it has 28 feet wide motorway flanked by six feet wide pedestrian ways.

In the past, the local people did not have easy access to Mon and Kayin States and Taninthayi Division due to poor transport. At present, they have the opportunity to travel from one place to another in a short time. Furthermore, the local people can visit other States and Divisions through the bridges. Sittoung Bridge (Moppalin) is the sixth facility of its kind in Mon State as well as the 235th facility in the entire nation.

River crossing bridges have been built one after another, and plans are under way to construct more and more bridges. Actually, these bridges are the milestones that reflect the correct leadership of the government, the ardent efforts and innovative capabilities of Myanmar engineers and the united strength of the national people.

Translation: TTA
Kyemon: 25-10-2008

Saving the endangered Tasmanian devil in Australia

ADELAIDE, 4 Nov—University of Adelaide zoologist Dr Jeremy Austin will lead a national project to help save the endangered Tasmanian devil from extinction.

Dr Austin and colleagues from SA Zoos and the Tasmanian Government will spend the next three years establishing a conservation program and working to suppress the infectious cancer, devil facial tumour disease, which is ravaging Australia’s largest living marsupial carnivore.

The Tasmanian devil is not only a key tourism icon for Australia’s most southern State, but also ecologically critical to Tasmania’s native ecosystem.

“Extinction of the species is a possibility within the next two decades unless disease spread can be stopped,” says Dr Austin.

Internet
F&R Minister receives ADB’s Executive Director

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Nov — Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun met with Executive Director Mr Md Saad Hashim of Asian Development Bank at the ministry here this afternoon. At the meeting, they discussed matters on financial affairs. MNA

Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township Association honours outstanding students

YANGON, 5 Nov—Prize presentation ceremony for outstanding students of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township Association was held at Dolphin Restaurant in Kandawgyi here on 2 November. At the ceremony, Patrons of the association U Soe Tint (Soe Electronics) and U Kyin Te (Chanthar construction) presented the prizes to Maung Kaung Htet and Ma Phu Pwint Thwe, who passed the matriculation examination with four distinctions. MNA

Basic Librarianship Multiplier Course 1/2008 conducted in Maubin

YANGON, 5 Nov — The opening of Basic Librarianship Multiplier Course (1/2008) of Maubin Township Information and Public Relations Department was held at the meeting hall of township Peace and Development Council Office on 2 November.

Chairman of Maubin Township PDC U Yi Mon made an opening address. Staff Officer of Maubin District IPRD Daw Ngwe Khin explained the purpose of conducting the course and gave talks on introduction to librarianship.

Assistant Librarian Daw Thuzar Myint gave lectures on librarianship and Maubin Township IPRD Staff Officer U Htain Lin on five points for the establishment of a library.

A total of 190 librarians including chairmen of the library committee attended the course. — MNA

Minister Maj-Gen Hla Tun meets with Executive Director Mr Md Saad Hashim of Asian Development Bank. — F&R

4th Horizon Streetball (Basketball) Tournament 29-30 Nov, 6-7 Dec

YANGON, 5 Nov — The Myanmar Basketball Federation and the Horizon Sports Academy will jointly organize the 4th Horizon Streetball (Basketball) Tournament at Horizon International Education Centre, here, on 29 and 30 November and 6 and 7 December.

The tournament will be categorized as the U-12, the U-14, the U-16 and Above-17 boys’ open events, the U-14 event, the U-16 and the above-17 girls’ open events, the singles goal scoring contest and the singles skill demonstration contest. K 150,000 will be awarded for the first prize, K 100,000 for the second prize and K 75,000 for the third prize. Those wishing to take part in the tournament may enlist at Horizon International Education Centre at No. 25 on Po Sein Road, Tel: 543926, not later than 21 November.

Stallion fuel/lubricant will sponsor the tournament together with co-sponsors Lion King Group, MK Trading, Alladin Recreation Centre and UPG Paints.

A total of 128 teams participated in the previous tournament. — NLM

Finder of ancient object of Bagan period rewarded

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Nov — U Kyaw Hsan of Khetkha (East) Village of Sagaing Myothit, Sagaing Division found a ball of gold in the shape of pumpkin weighing 0.75 tical while ploughing.

He entrusted it at the branch of Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department in Mandalay on 29 July. It was an ancient object of Bagan period.

U Kyaw Hsan was given K 894,717 as a reward on 23 October.

The Archaeology, National Museum and Library Department preserves ancient objects in accord with the law. — MNA

Mineral-removing tank, filtering tank and water-storage tank of No. 1 Waterwork in Dagon Myothit (South) Township.

(News on page 16) — MNA
Gold plate donors invited for Shwedagon Pagoda

Yangon, 5 Nov—Shwedagon Pagoda has been put up with scaffolding for offering of gold foils and plates and maintenance of the structure of the pagoda because the gold foils and plates were damaged due to storm Nargis in May 2008.

In addition, the renovation work will be undertaken for more strengthening of the inverted lotus flowers and spreading lotus flowers at the pagoda. Wellwishers may donate K 3,120,000 for one gold plate weighing six ticals, K 1,560,000 for one gold plate weighing three ticals, K 780,000 for one gold plate weighing 1.5 ticals and K 520,000 for one gold plate weighing 1 tical inscribed with the name of donor. For more information, please dial 2518511, 375767 and 371089 of the Office of Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees. —MNA

EP No. 2 Minister meets Chinese guests

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 Nov—Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint received Executive Vice-President Mr. Sun Weiming of China National Technical Import & Export Corporation (CNTIC) of the People’s Republic of China and party at the ministry here yesterday. They held discussions on cooperation in construction of national power grid and sub-power station projects.

Present also at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Win Myint and departmental officials. —MNA

Special criminal appeal cases heard

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 Nov—The Special Appellate Bench comprising Deputy Chief Justice of Supreme Court (Mandalay) U Khin Maung Latt, Supreme Court Judges (Mandalay) U Myint Aung and U Sein Hlaung sitting at courtroom No. 1 of the Supreme Court (Nay Pyi Taw) heard five special criminal appeal cases under section 7 of the Judiciary Law, 2000 on 3rd November and delivered judgement of 12 special criminal appeal cases and then heard five special criminal appeal cases under the same law, on 5 November 2008. —MNA

Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Plan discussed

Yangon, 5 Nov—The first launch and stakeholders consultation for Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Plan (PONREPP) was held at Chatrium Hotel at 9 am on 5 November 2008 (Wednesday).

Chairman of the Tripartite Core Group Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu, Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar Mr Bansarn Bunnag and UNDP Resident Representative Mr Bishow Parajuli delivered addresses.

The Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Plan will be a successor plan after the Post-Nargis Joint Assessment (PONA) Report which will be utilized to supplement, complement the reconstruction and recovery efforts undertaken by the Myanmar government.

The Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Plan will be jointly supervised by TCG, comprising the Myanmar government, ASEAN and UN components, based on the government’s National Natural Disaster Preparedness Central Committee and 16 ministers’ National Reconstruction and Preparedness Plans. The PONREPP Plan is formulated based on the UN Cluster System of livelihood, education, health, sanitation, shelter and disaster risk reduction-DRR. High-level government officials from 11 ministries took part in the discussion accordingly for each related cluster.

Also present at the meeting were representatives of UN agencies, mission heads of the foreign embassies from donor countries and ASEAN countries, representatives of INGOs and NGOs and members of TCG. —MNA

Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu delivers speech at first launch and stakeholders consultation for Post-Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Plan (PONREPP). —MNA

16th AGM of First Myanmar Investment Co Ltd held

Yangon, 5 Nov—The 16th annual general meeting of First Myanmar Investment (FMI) Co Ltd was held at Sedona Hotel here this afternoon.

First, share holders were introduced to members of the board of advisory of FMI Co Ltd, executive directors, member of SPA Myanmar Ltd Mr Frankie Tan and Col Win Maung (Retd), chairman of the board of advisory, made an opening address.

Next, Chairman of FMI Co Ltd Managing Agent U Theim Wai extended greetings and explained the ongoing works of the company.

Afterwards, share holders took part in discussions and officials of the company answered the queries raised by those present.

Officials presented annual report and finance account of the company for 2007-08 and sought the approval of those present. New executive directors and auditors were selected and the chairman made concluding remarks. —MNA

Minister Col Zaw Min inspects Kengtawng hydropower project.

(News Reported) — MNA
**Fishing boats, equipment handed over to fishermen of Pyapon, Dedaye**

**Yangon, 5 Nov***

Member of National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Soe Naing on 1 November attended the ceremony to hand over fishing boats and fishing nets to local fishermen by Mingalar Myanmar Co at Nay Hnint Village of Dedaye Town.

Wellwisher Singaporean Ambassador Mr Robert Chua Hlan Kong explained the purpose of donation and Company Managing Director Dr Phone Win, arrangements for distribution of fishing boats and fishing nets.

The minister, the ambassador and officials handed over 200 fishing boats and 200 fishing nets to representatives of nine villages in Pyapon Township and eight villages in Dedaye Township.

In Hsa-ochhaung Village, they viewed the trainees attending the natural disaster preparedness management course conducted by Mingalar Myanmar Co.

**Cash donations to doyen literati**

**Yangon, 5 Nov***

Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association organizes cash donation ceremony for respecting paying to doyen literati at Sarpay Birikman, here today.

At the cash donation ceremony, wellwishers donated K 900,000 and books, traditional medicine, calendars and packages of green tea worth K 1,100,000.

Those wishing to donate cash and kind to funds for respecting paying ceremony may contact No. 529/531 Sarpay Beikman at the corner of Merchant Road and 37th Street and dial 385273 and 252417.

**Mayor’s Cup Tennis Tournaments on 15 to 20 Nov**

**Yangon, 5 Nov***

Organized by Yangon City Development Committee, the 4th Yangon Mayor’s Cup Team-wise and Age-wise Tennis Tournaments will take place at Theinbyu Tennis Court, here, from 15 to 20 November.

The competitions are categorized as the team event, the men’s open singles and doubles events, the under-10, under-12, under-14 and under-16 boys’ and girls’ singles events.

Every tennis team is to be formed with six to seven players including one State/Division level player, one over-50 player, one State/Division level player and over-60 State/Division level selected player.


Those wishing to take part in the competitions may enlist at the federation, not later than 12 noon on 14 November. An official of each team is invited to attend the meeting to draw the schedules for the tournament at the office of the federation.

**Myanmar Agri-Tech Ltd holds demonstration on use of bio-diesel**

**Yangon, 5 Nov***

Myanmar Agri-Tech Ltd of SPA/FMI Companies Group held a demonstration on use of bio-diesel from physic nut oil at Sedona Hotel here this morning.

Chairman of SPA/FMI Companies Group and Myanmar Agri-Tech Ltd U Theim Wai (a) Mr. Serge Pun and Chairman Mr. Kim Sung Soo signed an MoU on construction of bio-diesel factory in Myanmar and exchanged the notes.

Those present viewed production process of bio-diesel from physic nut oil, demonstration on use of bio-diesel and running of generators and vehicles with the use of bio-diesel.

Permission has been granted for sale of the bio-diesel in the Republic of Korea. A total of 2000 acres of land have been put under physic nut plants by Myanmar Agri-Tech Ltd along Pathein-Mawtinsun motorway. The plan is under way to use fuel-substitute bio-diesel in the country and to export the surplus.

**Demonstration on use of bio-diesel produced from physic nut oil by SPA/FMI Companies Group.**

**On behalf of the Minister for Sports, Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun presents Championship Trophy to No. 11 LID in the hockey tournament of Myanmar Hockey Federation.**

(News reported) — MNA

**On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), Naval Dockyard Command Commander Han Sein presents championship Shield to Taninthayi Naval Region Command team.**

**On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), Naval Dockyard Command Commander Han Sein made a speech and opened the competitions.**

Altogether 13 teams took part in the competitions and officers later presented prizes to winners.

**Next, Naval Dockyard Command Commander Commodore Han Sein presented Championship Shield to Taninthayi Naval Region Command team.**

**Commander-in-Chief (Navy)’s Shield Shooting Championship**

**Yangon, 5 Nov***

The opening of Commander-in-Chief (Navy)’s Shield Shooting Championship was held at the stadium of Naval Training Command Headquarters here today.

On behalf of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), Naval Dockyard Command Commander Han Sein made a speech and opened the competitions.
Almost all the mills and factories can operate round the clock owing to the supply of electric power from Lawpita Hydropower Station. After observing industrial zones in other regions, some of local industrialists planned to spread their wings. That will help expedite tasks for development of Kayah State and create more job opportunities.

We proceeded to Kayah traditional textile workshop in Loikaw, which belongs to vocalist Kayah U Nyunt Tin Lay. There, I saw a Dutch couple with a tour guide choosing traditional costumes. Several days before that day, 10 tourists visited the workshop and bought some dresses. Tourism industry of Kayah State is now booming as a result of having restored peace and stability in it. The state is drawing the attention of tourists with its traditions, customs, and scenic natural beauties.

The workshop is equipped with four weaving machines, eight manual looms and 16 employees at a productivity rate of 150 units of garments per day such as Kayah traditional women’s and men’s wear blouses, shirts, sarongs, tapestry garments, blankets and scarf.

We then visited Shwe Pan Thu tile and marble tile workshop. It was housed in Dimawhso and Pruhso townships. He produced a wide range of household decorations made of marble such as table, vase, ash-tray, and lamp posts. Many local and foreign tourists bought his products, so supply did not meet the demand, he said.

"I am not able to make products as many as ordered. I wish next generation would be able to manufacture such products on a commercial scale."

Kayah State is now booming in the industrial sector of Kayah State Peace and Development Council rendered various forms of assistance inclusive of constructing roads, power supply, and granting licence, thus helping boost production of goods in the region.

The ward gets most of raw materials in the state, and distributes finished products to many regions such as Taunggyi Mandalay, Magway and Rakhine regions.

He said that he got raw marble from Dimawhso and Pruhso townships. He produced many local and foreign tourists bought his products, so supply did not meet the demand, he said.

"I am not able to make products as many as ordered. I wish next generation would be able to manufacture such products on a commercial scale."

Kayah State is rich in natural resources such as coal, antimony, marble, limestone, tin, tungsten, shale, ore and gold. Human resource development is going upward in the state. It will be able to speed up development momentum if it exerts increased efforts with advanced technologies. I think Kayah traditional social occasions such as wedding reception and house-warming ceremony, and commercial occasions such as Kayt Hto Bo (a Dagundaing festival), Deeka (boiled sticky rice snack) festival, and Kay (hunting) festival will be popular among foreign tourists.

Kayah State, like other states and divisions, has begun to enjoy remarkable development in the time of the State Peace and Development Council, a fact which is undeniable.
**Factory orders drop more than expected**

**WASHINGTON, 5 Nov—** Factory orders dropped by more than three times as much as analysts expected in September as the US manufacturing sector continues to suffer from the economic downturn. The Commerce Department said on Tuesday that factory orders fell 3.7 percent, the steepest drop since 1992 when the department began tracking sector-specific changes.

Orders for non-defense capital goods excluding aircraft, considered a good indication of business investment plans, fell by 1.5 percent. That follows a 2.3 percent drop in August and indicates companies are cutting back on investments, likely due to the economic downturn and difficulty getting credit.

Smokers’ homes more likely to house hungry kids

**NEW YORK, 5 Nov—** Children who live with adult smokers are more likely to be underfed and undernourished, a new study finds. The same is true for adult members of smoking households, but children feel the impact the most, said study author Dr Michael Weitzman, chair of Pediatrics at New York University School of Medicine.

“We know that there are long-term consequences of food insecurity for children. They are more likely to do poorly in school, to have iron deficiency and anemia, and to have behavioral and social problems,” Weitzman said. Looking at data on 8,817 households gathered in national surveys by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Weitzman and his colleagues found that 15 percent of adults and 11 percent of children reported food insecurity within the past year, with 6 percent of adults and 1 percent of children experiencing severe food insecurity. This meant they went to bed hungry, because there wasn’t enough food in the house.—**Internet**

**Rice can trigger severe gut reaction in infants**

A worker shows his rice at a rice mill in the Karawang regency, Indonesia’s West Java province on 21 Oct, 2008.—**INTERNET**

**NEW YORK, 5 Nov—** Although rice is considered to have a low potential for causing allergic reactions, it can trigger a severe form of gut inflammation in some infants, new study findings confirm.

The reaction is known as “food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome,” or FPIES — an inflammatory response of the digestive system to certain food proteins, including those in cow’s milk, soy, meat and grains. Infants with FPIES usually suffer vomiting and diarrhea within roughly 2 hours of eating the culprit food.

While FPIES is similar to a standard food allergy, it does not involve a response from immune system antibodies. And unlike a true food allergy, FPIES usually causes only gastro-intestinal symptoms.

Rice, because of its low potential for triggering an allergic response, is generally considered to be the first solid food for infants. However, the grain is increasingly being recognized as a cause of FPIES. In the new study, Australian researchers found that over 16 years, 14 children came to their hospital with 26 episodes of rice-related FPIES. During the same period, FPIES caused by cow’s milk or soy — considered the most common triggers of the condition, occurred in 17 children who had 30 episodes.

What’s more, reactions to rice tended to be more severe, with more children requiring IV fluids, the researchers report in the Archives of Disease in Childhood.—**Internet**

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Durable goods orders — big-ticket items such as construction machinery expected to last at least three years — rose by 0.9 percent, up from a preliminary estimate of 0.8 percent last week.

But that increase was overwhelmed by a 5.5 percent drop in orders of non-durable goods, which include food, clothes and petroleum products.

**Internet**

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Microsoft looking to China to create new products

Microsoft says its Beijing center, one of six, already has exceeded expectations, producing 260 innovations that have been added to products sold worldwide. The center is Microsoft’s biggest outside the United States, with 350 researchers. — Internet

EU launches Alpine flora and fauna protection plan

VIENNA, 5 Nov — The European Union has launched a cross-border programme to protect the 30,000 animal species and 13,000 types of plant in the Alps, it was announced on Tuesday.

Chris Walzer, co-ordinator of the ECO-CONECT programme, told reporters in Vienna that the programme had a budget of 3.2 million euros (4.15 million dollars) over three years.

It covers EU members Austria, France, Germany, Italy and Slovenia, plus Switzerland, and has 16 associated states, both EU members and non-members.

Walzer, a researcher at Vienna’s veterinary university, cited bears in the Slovenian Alps as a threatened species, saying that every year 20 were killed by cars, trucks or trains during their migrations. — Internet

NYC budget woes hit police, fire, health services

NEW YORK, 5 Nov — New York City will cancel the police academy’s next class, cut hundreds of jobs and close dental clinics for poor children to trim its budget amid an economic crisis, a city official said on Tuesday.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg will announce those cuts and others on Wednesday when he gives an update on the $59 billion budget, an administration official said.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the update had not been officially announced.

Bloomberg did not give details on his budget plan at a news conference Tuesday but said he would likely ask for a “slowdown, but not really for a meltdown.”

“We don’t know just how deep this recession is going to go or for how long,” he said.

For now, his update will show that the city faces budget gaps of $4 billion this fiscal year and next, the administration official said.

To help bridge those deficits, Bloomberg asked all city agencies in September to come up with their own plans to cut spending by 2.5 percent this fiscal year, which ends next June, and additional cuts of 5 percent the following year.

Those are targeted to save $500 million this year and $1 billion in fiscal 2010. — Internet

Folic acid and other B vitamins won’t help prevent cancer

NEW YORK, 5 Nov — Taking folic acid or other B vitamin supplements won’t lower your risk of cancer, new research shows. However, the good news is that it won’t increase your risk either, according to the study, which was published in the 5 Nov issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

“In women at risk of cardiovascular disease, we found that folic acid, vitamin B6 and vitamin B12 had no beneficial or harmful effects on the risk of invasive cancer or breast cancer,” said study author Dr Shumin Zhang, an associate professor of medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School, in Boston.

Because adequate levels of folic acid in women have been proven to prevent serious birth defects, the government has mandated that folic acid be added to cereals and breads since January 1998, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. — Internet

Asian demand behind falling shark populations

SYDNEY, 5 Nov — Asian demand for shark fin soup is pushing the animal’s population in the wild to new lows, the Australian government and a wildlife trade monitoring group said in a report released on Wednesday.

The report found that while more than one-fifth of shark species were already threatened with extinction, a lack of government control on overfishing and the problem of illegal fishing were further depleting the animal’s numbers. “The status of shark stocks continues to deteriorate,” it said, adding that the predators were particularly vulnerable to overfishing because they produced few young and matured slowly.

Report co-author Glenn Sant of the wildlife group TRAFFIC said the extent of illegal and unreported fishing made it impossible to determine the total number of sharks being killed each year for their meat and fins. — Internet

New York City police officers try to contain a crowd that took to the street to celebrate the victory of President-elect Barack Obama in the East Village neighbourhood of New York, on 5 Nov, 2008. New in New York.— Internet

Picture taken in August 2008 of France’s highest peak the Mont Blanc in the French Alps. The European Union has launched a cross-border programme to protect the 30,000 animal species and 13,000 types of plant in the Alps, it was announced on Tuesday. — Internet

Job seekers line up to get employment applications at a job fair in Manila on 5 Nov, 2008. A slowing economy due to high inflation and the impact of the global financial crisis has made it harder to get jobs in the Philippines, where the unemployment rate was at 7.4 percent as of July.— Internet
Roma hand Spalletti lifeline with Chelsea victory

ROME, 5 Nov — AS Roma coach Luciano Spalletti’s job is looking a lot safer following his team’s stunning 3-1 victory over 10-man Chelsea in the Champions League at the Stadio Olimpico on Tuesday.

Roma gave themselves a Group A lifeline with the victory that moves them up to second, just a point behind the Londoners.

Defeat would have almost certainly signalled the end of their European ambitions but the struggling Romans picked the right moment to rediscover their form against the Premier League leaders. —INTERNET

Gerrard rescues Liverpool at the death

LIVERPOOL, 5 Nov — Rafa Benitez admitted he is concerned by Liverpool’s lack of cutting edge after his side needed a dubious penalty to salvage a 1-1 draw against Atletico Madrid in the Champions League.

Benitez’s team were grateful that Swedish referee Martin Hansson decided Steven Gerrard’s theatrical tumble was worthy of spot-kick seconds from full-time at Anfield on Tuesday.

Even Gerrard, who smashed in the penalty to keep Liverpool on course for the second round, conceded it was a harsh decision, and Benitez was unimpressed with the way the Reds laboured to kill off Atletico.

They created the better chances but, in a worrying repeat of their misfiring defeat at Tottenham on Sunday, failed to take them and were eventually forced to settle for less than their build-up play deserved. —INTERNET

“Frings can get better if he proves himself, says Loew

BERLIN, 5 Nov — German coach Joachim Loew has made it clear to rebel midfielder Torsten Frings in a face-to-face meeting on Tuesday he must prove himself if he wants to win back his place to face England next month.

The 31-year-old midfielder - part of the teams that reached both the 2002 World Cup and Spain respectively - was bitterly disappointed after Loew dropped him from the national side last month for his team’s 1-0 defeat against Sporting Lisbon in the other group match means Spanish league leaders Barcelona qualify from Group C with their tally of ten points with two games left to play. Argentine international Lionel Messi scored his fourth Champions League goal in as many games to put Barcelona ahead on 62 minutes - just 120 seconds after coming on as a substitute - but Eren Derdiyok equalised for the Swiss visitors eight minutes from time. —INTERNET

Barcelona reach knockout phase despite close brush with Basel

BARCELONA, 5 Nov — Barcelona became the first team to qualify for the knockout stage of this season’s Champions League despite losing their 100 percent record in the competition following a 1-1 home draw with FC Basel on Tuesday.

Marcos Bozes

Barcelona’s Argentinean forward Lionel Messi celebrates after scoring against Basel during a Champions League football match at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona. The match ended in a 1-1 draw. — INTERNET

Panathinaikos blitz Bremen

BREMEN, 5 Nov — Greek side Panathinaikos picked up their first Champions League win on Tuesday and left Werder Bremen’s dreams of progressing in tatters after they suffered a 3-0 home defeat on Tuesday.

“We do not need to hide anything, we were completely outplayed and we didn’t finish any of the opportunities we created ourselves,” said bitterly disappointed Bremen coach Thomas Schaaf.

“That was a huge disappointment.” And midfielder Frank Baumann summed up the team’s low mood: “We wanted to get three points and improve our position in the table, but we totally flopped.” — INTERNET

Cypriot minnows almost Inter Champions League last 16

NICOSIA, 5 Nov — Cypriot minnows Anorthosis Famagusta twice came from behind to tame Italian giants Inter Milan in a thrilling 3-2 draw in this action-packed Group B Champions League game here on Tuesday.

Anorthosis showed dogged determination and enjoyed a large slice of lady luck against their more illustrious opponents who will be wondering how they let it slip from their grasp.

Inter coach Jose Mourinho praised Anorthosis but said his side were too complacent. —INTERNET

McEnroe backs Murray to have major impact

LONDON, 5 Nov — Tennis legend John McEnroe said conditioning had been the key factor behind rising British star Andy Murray’s rise to prominence in 2008.

The 21-year-old Scot is now one of the favourites for the upcoming Masters series event in Shanghai and McEnroe, set to delight his legion of British fans at next month’s BlackRock Masters Tennis event at London’s Royal Albert Hall, said Murray’s form now made him a serious contender for the sport’s top prizes.

“When Andy Murray first came on the scene three or four years ago you heard people say that he could win ‘majors’, and he’s putting all that together now,” said McEnroe, three-times Wimbledon singles champion in the 1980s. —INTERNET

Barcelona’s Argentinean forward Lionel Messi celebrates after scoring against Basel during a Champions League football match the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona. The match ended in a 1-1 draw. — INTERNET

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## China launches English training programme for Buddhists

**Shanghai, 5 Nov**—China on Tuesday launched an English training programme for Buddhist followers to better prepare them for foreign exchange.

The programme, organized by the China Religious Culture Communication Association (CRCCA) and the Buddhist Association of China (BAC), opened at the Shanghai International Studies University.

Qi Xiaofei, deputy head of the CRCCA, said at the opening ceremony that the half-year course would train translators and interpreters for the Second World Buddhist Forum, scheduled to be held in China next year.

More than 20 Buddhist followers from monasteries nationwide, who had a certain level of English proficiency, were selected for the training.—MNA/Xinhua

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## Colombia seizes 1.6 tons of cocaine in submersible craft

**Bogota, 5 Nov**—The Colombian Navy said on Tuesday it had seized a submersible craft packed with 1.6 tons of cocaine to be smuggled to Central America.

The haul, which was seized on Saturday in Cabo Manglares, near the Ecuadorian border with Colombia, had a street value of some 40 million US dollars, the Navy said, adding that the people guarding the drug ran away when detecting the presence of the authorities.

The Navy said the drug was of high purity and was a submersible craft of this type could cost one million dollars. In the last two years, the navy had seized 50 tons of cocaine intended to be transported by using submersible craft.

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## Weather

**Wednesday, 5 November, 2008**

### Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 br MST:

During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Upper Sagar Division, scattered in Kachin and Shan States, isolated in Chin, Rakhine State and Lower Sagar, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions; weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3˚C) to (4˚C) below November average temperatures in Rakhine State, Upper Sagar, Magway and Yangon Divisions, (3˚C) to (4˚C) above November average temperatures in Shan State, Mandalay and Bago Divisions (3˚C) above November average temperatures in Mon State and about November average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperature was Loilen (8˚C). The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (Lewe) (0.04) inch, Loilen (0.87) inch, Bhamo (0.83) inch, Kalay and Kalaywa (0.67) inch each and Mawlaik (0.63) inch.

Maximum temperature on 4-11-2008 was 91˚F. Minimum temperature on 5-11-2008 was 70˚F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 5-11-2008 was 84%.

Total sunshine hours on 4-11-2008 was (8.0) hrs approx. Rainfall on 5-11-2008 was (0.11) inch at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (109.13) inches at Mingaladon, (120.71) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.79) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 4-11-2008.

**Bay influence:** Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

### Forecast valid until evening of 6th November 2008:

Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Kachin and Shan States, upper Sagar Division, isolated in Chin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Divisions and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. 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 Northern Myanmar areas.

**Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 6-11-2008:** Partly cloudy.

**Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-11-2008:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers.

**Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-11-2008:** Partly cloudy.

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### TV Myanmar

**Thursday, 6 November**

- **7:00 am**
  - View on today
- **7:30 am**
  - To be healthy exercise
- **7:40 am**
  - Morning news
- **7:45 am**
  - Nice and sweet song
- **8:00 am**
  - Dance national races
- **8:05 am**
  - Musical programme
- **8:15 am**
  - Dance Variety
- **8:30 am**
  - International news
- **8:45 am**
  - Martial song
- **9:00 am**
  - Song to uphold national spirits
- **9:40 am**
  - Song of love
- **10:00 am**
  - Weather report
- **10:40 am**
  - Dancers
- **11:00 am**
  - Song to uphold national spirits
- **11:40 am**
  - Song of love
- **12:00 pm**
  - Weather report
- **12:40 pm**
  - Song of love
- **1:40 pm**
  - Song to uphold national spirits
- **2:00 pm**
  - Song of love
- **3:00 pm**
  - Song of love
- **4:00 pm**
  - Song of love
- **5:00 pm**
  - Song of love
- **6:00 pm**
  - Song of love
- **6:30 pm**
  - Song of love
- **7:00 pm**
  - Song of love
- **7:30 pm**
  - Song of love
- **8:00 pm**
  - Weather report
- **8:30 pm**
  - Weather report
- **9:00 pm**
  - Weather report
- **9:30 pm**
  - Weather report
- **10:00 pm**
  - Weather report
- **10:30 pm**
  - Weather report
- **11:00 pm**
  - Weather report
- **11:30 pm**
  - Weather report

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### Weather

- Minimum temperature on 5-11-2008 was 70˚F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 5-11-2008 was 84%
- Total sunshine hours on 4-11-2008 was (8.0) hrs approx.
- Rainfall on 5-11-2008 was (0.11) inch at Mingaladon, (Nil) at Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon.
- Total rainfall since 1-1-2008 was (109.13) inches at Mingaladon, (120.71) inches at Kaba-Aye and (140.79) inches at Central Yangon.
- Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (4) mph from Southeast at (18:30) hours MST on 4-11-2008.
- Bay influence: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.
- **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas.
- **Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 6-11-2008:** Partly cloudy.
- **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 6-11-2008:** Possibility of isolated rain or thundershowers.
- **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 6-11-2008:** Partly cloudy.
A boom in industrial sector of Kayah State

During our stay in Loikaw, Kayah State, we happened to observe local industries. We chose No. (1) Industrial Ward in Loikaw to visit first.

On 15 May 2007, the project to establish the industrial ward was launched by driving stakes, cutting down wild plants, installing power lines and constructing infrastructural buildings.

(See page 11)

Production line in the paper mill at No. 1 Industrial Ward in Loikaw.

Chelsea’s Deco, Scolari puzzled by sending off

LONDON, 5 Nov — Chelsea midfielder Deco has said he does not know why he was sent off in last night’s Champions League group game 3-1 defeat at Roma.

The former Barcelona star was left stunned as the second booking was made and said that Luis Medina Cantalejo’s decision was crazy.

Newcastle Captain Owen ready for Fulham

NEWCASTLE, 5 Nov — Newcastle United skipper Michael Owen is set to return to starting line-up for Sunday’s Premier-ship clash at Fulham.

The 28-year-old England international striker made his comeback after a groin lay-off as a late substitute in Monday night victory over Aston Villa.

The Magpies are now in 14th place after a good week where they followed up the 2-1 victory over West Bromwich Albion with a 2-0 triumph over the Villans with Joe Kinnear’s side now looking forward to the outing at Craven Cottage.